History
Grand Council
R. & S. M.
State of New York
from its
Inception to 1873

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HISTORY

of the

GRAND COUNCIL

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS

of the

State of New York

from its inception to 1873

Press of JOHN W. PALMER
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INTRODUCTION

[Prepared for the Library Committee by M ·. Ill.·. Geo. McGown—see proceedings of the Grand Council for 1902.]

A few years ago the Grand Council made provision for a reprint of its Proceedings up to 1873, and the publication of those that had never been officially printed.

The subject was placed in the hands of a Committee designated "The Library Committee," who have been assiduous in their search for information, with a view to the publication of all the transactions from the reputed formation of a Grand Council in 1807. This date has been claimed as that of the organization of the Grand Council, but the committee has been unable to discover any tangible evidence to substantiate the claim. In 1860 a committee was appointed to prepare a "History of the Grand Council of the State of New York, from its inception to the present time." This Committee, through its chairman, Companion Vincent W. Bate, submitted a full and interesting report which appears in the published transactions for 1861.

After giving a sketch of the introduction of the degrees into this country, through certain members of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, the report says: In 1807, Bro. Joseph Cerneau, Deputy Inspector General, 33°, "conferred the degrees of Royal Master upon several brethren in New York, and by his authority derived from the Grand Consistory of France, formed, in September of that year, the Council of Royal Master Masons of the City of New York, and installed Companion Thomas Lownds as first Grand Royal Master."

The report further states "The records of the Grand Council of Royal Masters of New York, September 2nd, 1810, say: This Grand Council, by resolution, granted a Warrant to Columbian Council, No. 1, for the City of New York, Companion Thomas Lownds, Thrice Illustrious Royal Master." If any such record ever existed, it has disappeared from view.

The minutes of Columbian Grand Council, No. 1, of Royal Master Masons of the City of New York, from September 2nd, 1810, to June, 1848, have been secured for the committee. These minutes make no reference to the reception of a Warrant from any Body, or individual. In fact, they show conclusively that Columbian Council, No. 1, was a self-constituted body, organized by a number of Royal Master Masons, under the leadership of Bro. Thomas Lownds, who was elected its first Thrice Illustrious Grand Royal Master, and served in that office until 1820. This Council was the first ever organized for the conferring of any of the degrees now recognized as belonging to the Cryptic Rite. This seniority was recognized by a Council organized at Boston in 1817, asking written sanction to be confirmed in their labors. This sanction was granted, and so far as appears of record this was the only instance where Columbian Grand Council, No. 1, exercised any of the attributes of sovereignty. The degree of Royal Master was the only regular degree conferred by it until 1817, when the degree of Super-Excellent Master was adopted.

In 1821, Companion Lownds created a Council of Select Masters by conferring the degree upon ten brethren, who, with one or two exceptions, were members of Columbian Council. One week later this new creation was merged with Columbian Council, and thereafter the Council conferred the three degrees, or "orders" of R∴ M∴, S∴ E∴ M∴ and S∴ M∴ apparently in the order named.

January 18th, 1823, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved—That it is expedient to form a "Grand Council of Royal Master Masons and Select Masons for the State of New York, and that the Thrice Illustrious Past Royal Master Thomas Lownds be requested to call a convention of all the Present and Past Grand Royal Masters, Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Wardens, in this city, in order to carry into effect the formation of a Grand Council."

The convention assembled January 25th, resolved it to be expedient to form a Grand Council of Royal Master Masons for the State of New York, and proceeded to elect officers. Thomas Lownds being chosen as the first Most Illustrious Royal Grand Master. A Constitution was adopted February 1st, 1823, and the Grand Council entered on its career with one subordinate—Columbian Council, No, 1. which appointed a committee to make formal application for a Warrant. Other Councils were formed from time

to time and the Grand Council maintained an existence until 1860, when it united with "The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York," organized in 1854. The proceedings of this latter body were published in duodecimo form up to and including 1872. Those of the other Grand Council were never published by that body.

As the pioneer organization, Columbian Council is inseparably identified with the development of this branch of Masonry in the State of New York. An independent body, owing allegiance to no one, untrammeled by landmarks, constitutions or laws, save those of its own creation, it was to all intents and purposes, a Grand Council. It had inherent power to confer the degrees in its possession, or to form other Councils for that purpose, and when it accomplished the organization of the Grand Council in 1823, from among its own members, it simply exercised that power by perfecting machinery for the propagation of the Rite. When the new organization was completed, Columbian Council voluntarily surrendered its independent status, and became a constituent of the body it had created, and with which it necessarily maintained more than ordinary intimate relations.

The minutes of Columbian Council, No. 1, may properly be regarded as part of the records of the Grand Council; indeed, the history of the Cryptic Rite in New York would be incomplete without them, hence they are published as part of the reprint.

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RECORDS

OF

COLUMBIAN GRAND COUNCIL, No. 1

OF

ROYAL MASTER MASONS

FOR THE

CITY OF NEW YORK

From its organization, September 10th, 1810, to the formation of the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons for the State of New York, January 25th, 1823.

New York, 2nd September, 1810.
St. John's Hall, 3 Elul (Tuesday), 5570.

At a meeting of a number of ROYAL MASTER MASONS:

Resolved—That Bro. Thomas Lownds take the chair and open a Council of Royal Masters.

Resolved—That the regular meetings of this Council be held on the eighth day of every lunar month, and at such other time and place as the T. Ill. Grand Royal Master shall think proper for the good of the said Council, and that the election for officers shall take place at the time that the sun enters cancer.

Resolved—That this Grand Council of Royal Master Masons be known and distinguished by the name of Columbian Grand Council, No. 1, of Royal Master Masons, for the City of New York.

Resolved—That this Grand Council proceed to elect officers to serve until the 21st of June, next ensuing.

When the following brethren were *elected*:

Thomas Lownds..Thrice Illustrious Grand R. M.
John E. Russell.....Illustrious D. R. M.
William Craig.....Illustrious Grand Warden
John Manner.....Grand R. Marshal
John Utt.....S. R. Marshal
Zebdee Ring.....J. R. Marshal
Peter Roome.....Grand Treasurer
Jones Humbert.....Grand Recorder
George Woorough.....Grand Conductor
Henry Broome.....Grand Herald

The officers were all installed and inducted in their several offices.

Bro. John P. Roome, proposed for exaltation: Bro. John N. Johnson, of Royal Arch, No. 2, Lodge, Bro. Robert Roberts, of Hiram, No. 7, Lodge, Bros. John Gowan and Asa Gurnsey, of Benevolent, No. 142, Lodge. These candidates were balloted for and admitted; being in waiting, came forward, and were exalted to this Ancient and Royal Degree.

Resolved—That a committee of five be appointed to draft a set of By-Laws for the use and regulation of this Grand Council.

Accordingly Brothers Thomas Lownds, Sampson Simpson, William Craig, Jones Humbert and Peter Roome were appointed.

No other business appearing, Council closed with S. S.

St. John's Hall, the 8 Elul (September), 5570.

A regular meeting of Columbian Grand Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grand Master Lownds being present.

No business offering, Council closed, with S. S.

New York, 21st September, 1810
St. John's Hall, 22 Elul, 5570.

An extra meeting of Columbian Grand Council was held, the T. Ill. Grand R. M. in the chair.

Bro. Young proposed Bro. Barjan, of Woods Lodge; he was balloted for, and admitted, being in waiting, came forward, and was exalted to the Royal degree.

No other business offering, Council adjourned to meet on the 1st of Tisvi (October).

First day of Tisvi, 5570.

Council met according to adjournment, the T. Ill. Grand M. Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. Peter Roome, proposed for exaltation in this Grand Council, Bro. Robert A. Stewart, and Bro. James Jones, both of Washington Lodge; seconded by Bro. Craige, and ordered to be entered on our minutes.

The officers being lectured on their different stations, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 7th October, 1810.

St. John's Hall, 8 Tisvi, 5571.

At a regular meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grand M. Lownds, in the chair.

Bros. Stewart and Jones were balloted for and admitted; came forward, and were exalted to the degree of R. M. M.

No other business, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 14th October, 1810.

St. John's Hall, 15th Tisvi, 5571.

An extra meeting of Columbian Council, the T. Ill. Grand M. Lownds in the chair.

Bro. John Jacobs, of Hiram Lodge, No. 7, was proposed by Bro. Robert Roberts, balloted for and admitted; he being in waiting, came forward and was exalted to the degree of a Royal Master Mason.

No other business, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 5th November, 1810.

St. John's Hall, 8 Hesvan, 5571.

A regular meting of Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grand R. M. Thomas Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. John Jacobs proposed for exaltation Bro. Charles G. Bast; was balloted for and admitted; being in waiting, came forward and received the degree of a R. M. M.

No other business, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 5th December, 1810.

St. John's Hall, 8 Kislen, (November), 5571.

A regular meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grand M. Thomas Lownds, in the chair.

Resolved, That the Knights of the Round-table should meet on the tenth of the present month (Kislen).

No other business appearing, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 7th December, 1810, and of our order 1204.

A Council of Knights of the Honorable Order of Round Table was opened by the Ill. Abbot Lownds.

The following companions were dubbed Knights of the order: Levy Nathans and Henry R. Roome.

New York, 5th January, 1811.
St. John's Hall, 8 Tebet, 5571.

A regular meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grand M. Thomas Lownds in the chair.

Bro. Wm. Craige proposed John Pollgang, Junior; was balloted for, and admitted; being in waiting, came forward and was exalted to the degree of R. M. M.

No other business, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 2d February, 1811.
St. John's Hall, 8 Sebat (January), 5571.

A regular meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grand M. Thomas Lownds in the chair.

Bro. Yound proposed, that the committee appointed to draft the By-Laws should report. They reported progress, and desired longer time, which was granted.

No business, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 4th March, 1811.
St. John's Hall, 8 Adar (February), 5571.

A regular meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M. the T. Ill. Grand R. M. Thomas Lownds, in the chair.

No business in this degree, Council closed, and a Chapter of Ill. Knights of the H. O. of the Garter, was opened by the Grand Prelate Lownds, the following Brothers and Companions were constituted Knights of this order. (No names given).

New York, 2d April, 1811.
St. John's Hall, 8 Nissan (April), 5571.

A regular meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M., the Ill. Grand R. M. Thomas Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. Robert Roberts proposed Bro. Benjamin Coles of No. 302, Ireland, to be exalted in this Council; he was balloted for and admitted, and being in waiting, came forward and received the degree of R. M. M.

Council closed with S. S.

New York, Friday, 21st June, 1811.

St. John's Hall, 28 Sivan (June), 5571.

This being the constitutional day for the election of Officers, the following brethren were appointed to fill the different offices.

Thomas Lownds..Thrice Illustrious Grand R. M.
Robert Young.....Illustrious Deputy R. M.
John Utt,.....Illustrious Grand Warden
John P. Roome.....Grand R. Marshal
Zebidee Ring.....S. R. Marshal
John Maraner.....J. R. Marshal
Peter Roome.....Treasurer
Jones Humbert.....Recorder
George Woodrough.....Conductor
Henry B. Roome.....Herald

The officers being installed and inducted in office, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 2d October, 1811.

St. John's Hall, 12 Tisvi (October), 5572.

An extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grand M. Thomas Lownds in the chair.

Bro. Peter Roome proposed for exaltation, Lues Samond, Thadeus Samond, Demas Knight and Joseph S. Branard, (all of St. John's, No. 1); Bro. Young proposed James Veriann of Abraham's Lodge, and Bros. Jacob Friday, of St. Andrew's, Jos. Anastasin of Washington Lodge.

They were balloted for, admitted and exalted to the degree of Royal M. M.

Bro. Lues Samond proposed Bros. Samuel Carter and John Wastern (of St. Simon and St. Jude Lodge).

They were likewise admitted and exalted.

No other business, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 6th October, 1811.

St. John's Hall, 16 Tisvi (October), 5572.

An extra meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, the T. Ill. Grand R. M. Thomas Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. John Marener proposed Bro. Henry Able, of Hiram Lodge, and Bro. John Westerfield, of Trinity, No. 10, as candidates for exaltation; they were balloted for, and admitted, and being in waiting, came forward and received this degree.

No further business, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 13th October, 1811.

St. John's Hall, 23 Tisvi, 5572.

An extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grand M. Thomas Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. John Utt proposed as candidates for exaltation, Bro. James York, of Trinity Lodge, No. 10, Bro. Robert Jackman, of Trinity Lodge, No. 10, Bro. Wm. Cunegan, of Wever Lodge.

They were balloted for and admitted; being in waiting, came forward, and received the degree of Royal Master Mason.

No other business, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 20th October, 1811.

St. John's Hall, 2d Hesvan (October) 5572.

At an extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grand R. M. Thomas Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. Peter Roome proposed Bro. Richard Marsh, of Phoenix Lodge, as a candidate for exaltation in this Grand Council; he being balloted for and admitted, came forward and received the degree of a R. M. Mason. On motion

Resolved, That the committee of five that had been appointed to draft By-Laws for this Council be dissolved, and that a committee of *five* be appointed for that purpose, accordingly the following brethren were appointed: Thomas Lownds, Lues Semond, Henry Able.

No other business appearing, Council closed with S. S.

New York, October 27th, 1811.

St. John's Hall, 9 Hesvan, 5572.

An extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grand M. Thomas Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. Robert Young proposed as adjoining members to this Council, Bro. John E. Rich, of Hudson, and Bro. Samuel Delamater, of Trinity, No. 10; they were balloted for, and unanimously admitted, and took their seats as members.

Bro. Richard Maist proposed as a candidate Bro. Samuel Pitmin, of Hiram Lodge, No. 7; was balloted for and admitted; being in waiting, came forward and was exalted to the degree of R. M. M. On motion

Resolved, That there shall be a Council of Knights of the Round Table held on the 10th day of the month, Hesvan, 5572, for the purpose of dubbing Knights of that Order.

No other business appearing, Council was closed with S. S.

New York, 30th October, 1811, and of our Order of Round Table, 1295.

A Grand Council of Knights of the Ancient and Honorable Order of Round Table, was held at St. John's Hall, the Ill. Abbot Sir Thomas Lownds in the chair; Sir Robert Young, Sword Bearer; Sir Peter Roome, Vergid.

The following companions were dubbed Knights of this Order: Lues Lamond, Thadius Lamond, Samuel C. Pitmin, Samuel Delamatar, John Westerfield, Jacob Friday, John E. Rich, Joseph S. Brainard, Zebedee Ring, John N. Johnston, John Utt, Richard Marsh, Henry Able, John Coffin, P. W. Edgett, the last named two are not members of Columbian Council of Royal Masters.

Council closed with its usual harmony.

New York, 3rd November, 1811.

St. John's Hall, 17 Hesvan, 5572.

An extra meeting of the Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. R. Grand M. Thomas Lownds in the chair.

Bro. John P Roome proposed Bro. Alexander Cooly, of Royal Arch Lodge, No. —.

Bro. Amos Carter, of Hiram Lodge, No. 7, and Bro. Higgins,

of Benevolent Lodge, No. —, were likewise proposed as candidates for exaltation, by Bro. Lownds; were balloted for and admitted; came forward and received the degree of a Royal Master Mason.

Bro. Henry Able proposed Bro. Samuel Mongomery, as an adjoining member of this Grand Council; he was balloted for and unanimously admitted, and took his seat as a member. On motion

Resolved, That this Council be closed, and a Chapter of Knights of the Garter be opened.

No other business appearing, the Council was closed with S. S.

New York, 3d November, 1811, and of our Order 454.

A Chapter of Knights of the Honorable Order of the Garter was opened by the Ill. Prelate Thomas Lownds.

The following brethren were installed Knights of this Invincible Order: Lewes Saymond, Thadeus Saymond, Samuel Mongomery, Edward Higgins, Samuel C. Pitmin, Robert Roberts, James Yourt, Amos Curtis, Jacob Friday, John E. Rich, John Westerfield, Alexander Cooley.

No other business appearing to be done in this Chapter, it was closed with S. S.

New York, 10th November, 1811.

St. John's Hall, 24 Hesvan, 5572.

An extra meeting of the Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grand M. Thomas Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. John Utt proposed Bro. Suell Dodge, of Trinity Lodge, No. 10, as a candidate for exaltation; he was balloted for, admitted, came forward and received the degree of Royal Master Mason.

Bro. Samuel Mongomery proposed Bro. Stephen Sundelud, as an adjoining member, and Bro. George Woodrough proposed Bro. Francis Dubar, Master of Albion Lodge, as an adjoining member to this Grand Council. They were balloted for, and unanimously admitted, and took their seats as members. On motion

Resolved, That this Grand Council of R. Master Masons be closed, and a Chapter of Knights of the Honorable Order of the Garter be opened.

No business appearing before this Council of R. M. Masons, it was closed with S. S.

New York, 10th November, 1811, and of our Order 454.

A Grand Chapter the Ill. and Invincible Order of Knights of the Garter was opened by the Ill. Sir Thomas Lownds, Grand Prelate of the Order, when the following companions came forward and were installed Knights of the Order of "St. George of Capidosia": Francis Dubar, Geo. Woodrough, Stephen Scudder, Suell Dodge, Derius Knight. On motion

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter of Knights of the Garter be adjourned until the 25th day of the present month.

Accordingly I adjourn this chapter.

THOMAS LOWNDS, Grand Prelate.

New York, 25th November, 1811.

St. John's Hall, 3 Kislen, 5572.

A regular meeting of the Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, the Thrice Ill. Grand M. Thomas Lownds in the chair.

Bro. Peter Roome proposed Bro. Wm. Fox, of Royal Arch, No. 2, as a candidate for exaltation in this Grand Council.

Bro. Derius Knight proposed Joseph Lough, Laban Smith, Stephen N. Hewet. The four brethren were balloted for, and all admitted; being in waiting, came forward, and received the degree of Royal Master Mason.

Bro. Lownds proposed Bro. James McCabe, as an adjoining member; he was unanimously admitted, and took his seat as a member.

No other business, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 25th November, 1811, and of our Order, 454.

The Grand Chapter of Knights of the Ill. and Invincible Order of St. George of Capidosia, met according to adjournment, the Ill. Prelate, Sir Thomas Lownds, in the chair, proceeded to business.

The following companions being accepted, came forward, and were installed as Knights of the Order: William Fox, Joseph Lough, Laben Smith, Stephen N. Hewet, James McCabe, invested with the several badges and took their seats.

No other business offering, the Chapter was closed with S. S.

New York, 1st December, 1811, 14 Kislen, 5572.

An extra meeting of the Columbia Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grd. M. Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. Hewet proposed Nathaniel S. Knapp, of Union Lodge.

Bro. Robt. Young proposed Samuel F. Richards, and Solomon Disbrow.

They were all three balloted for, admitted, and exalted to the degree of Royal Master Masons.

Bro. Knight proposed Bro. Wm. Bakewell, of Abraham's Lodge, and Bro. Levy Nathans, of Royal Arch, No. 2, as adjoining members; they were balloted for, and admitted, took their seats as members.

Bro. John Utt, proposed Bro. — Murray, of Trinity Lodge, No. 10; he was balloted for, and admitted; came forward and received the degree of Royal Master Mason.

No other business appearing, the Council closed with S. S.

New York, 5th December, 1811.

St. John's Hall, 21 Kislen, 5572.

An extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grd. R. M. Thos. Lownds in the chair.

Bro. Robert Young proposed for exaltation John Brush, of St. Simons, and Joseph Nilson, of St. Judes, Poucapsie.

They came forward and were admitted to the degree of Royal Master Mason. On motion,

Resolved, That this Council be closed and a Chapter of Knights of the Garter be opened.

No business offering in this Grand Council, it was closed with S. S.

New York, 5th December, 1811, and of our Ill. Order 454.

A Grand Chapter of Ill. and In. Knights of the Garter was opened by the Grd. Prelate of the Order, Sir Thos. Lownds.

John Brush and Joseph Nelson came forward, and were installed Knights of this Order.

Chapter closed with S. S.

New York, 24th December, 1811.

St. John's Hall, 5 Tebit, 5572.

At a regular meeting of the Columbian Council of Royal M. M., the T. Ill. R. Grd. Master Thos. Lownds in the chair.

Bro. Edward Higgins proposed for exaltation Robert Howard, past M. of B. Sr.; was balloted for and admitted; came forward and received the degree of Royal M. Mason.

No other business, Council was closed with S. S.

New York, 23rd January, 1812.

St. John's Hall, 5 Sebat, 5572.

At a regular meeting of the Columbian Council of R. M. M's., the T. Ill. Grd. R. Master Thos. Lownds in the chair.

Bro. Darius Knight proposed Bro. John Williams, of Minervi Lodge, Liverpool, as a candidate for exaltation, was balloted for and admitted; being in waiting came forward and received the degree of R. M. M.

No other business offering, Council closed with S. S.

New York, Monday, 21st January, 1812, and of our Order, 1296.

A Grd. Convention of Kt's of the Ancient and Honorable Order of the Round Table was held at St. John's Hall.

The Ill. Abbot Sir Thos. Lownds in the chair.

The following brethren came forward and were dubbed Sir Knights of the Order: Amos Curtis, Suell Doge, —. Ranelds, —. Dickey.

New York, 5th February, 1812.

St. John's Hall, 21 Sebat, 5572.

At an extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grd. Master Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. T. Seymour proposed Elias Reynolds.
Bro. Utt proposed J. K. Holmes and Richd. Kipp.

They were balloted for and unanimously admitted; being in waiting, came forward and received the degree of R. M. M.

No other business offering, Council closed.

New York, Sunday, 9th February, 1812.

St. John's Hall, 25 Sebat, 5572.

At an extra meeting of the Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grd. M. Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. Utt proposed as candidates for exaltation in this Council, John E. Russell, Senior W. of Trinity Lodge; and Richd. Rocencrantz, of Trinity Lodge.

They were balloted for, and unanimously admitted; being in waiting, came forward, and received the degree of Royal M. M.

Council closed with S. S.

New York, 15th March, 1812.

St. John's Hall, 2 Adar, 5572.

At an extra meeting of the Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. R. G. M. Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. John Utt proposed as candidates for exaltation, Henry Rutzer, Sec'y of Trinity Lodge, and Garrt Lansing, W. M. of Phoenix Lodge.

They were balloted for, and admitted; being in waiting, came forward and received the degree of R. M. M.

No other business appearing, the Council closed with S. S.

March 23d, 1812.

St. John's Hall, 9 Nissan, 5572.

At an extra meeting of the Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. R. M. Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. Jacob Finlay proposed as candidates for exaltation, John Pedima, of St. Andrews, No. 3, and James Stins, of St. Andrews, No. 3.

Bro. Garit Lansing proposed Lewis Payany, of Phoenix Lodge.

They were all three balloted for, and admitted; came forward and received the degree of R. M. M's.

No other business, Council closed with S. S.

New York, Sunday, 2nd April, 1812.

St. John's Hall, 5 Yiad, 5572.

At a regular meeting of the Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. R. G. M. Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

The committee for drafting the By-laws, beg permission to report, that they to the best of their information have performed their duty, and submit their performance to the better judgment of this Grand Council. On motion,

Resolved, That the By-Laws be read. They were read and amended and accepted. On motion,

Resolved, That they be entered on our minutes, and that this Council and all its members be governed by them.

THE BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF COLUMBIAN COUNCIL OF ROYAL MASTER MASONS.

ARTICLE I.

The regular meetings of this Grand Council shall be on the 5th day of every Lunar month, but it shall be the duty of the Thrice Ill. Grand R. M. to call a special meeting at such other time and place as he feels the good of the Order shall think proper.

ARTICLE II.

Every member of this Council shall observe the strictest decorum while the Council is at labor, and if he conducts himself in a reprehensible and anti-masonic manner, it shall be the duty of the T. Ill. Grd. R. M. to call him to order, and reprimand him, and if he shall persist in Indervious conduct, he shall be expelled for the evening, and be at the mercy of the members for his re-admission.

ARTICLE III.

Any brother applying for exaltation in this Council, or to become adjoining member, may be proposed and balloted for at the same meeting. Two black balls shall exclude him, but if one appear in the box, it shall be the duty of the T. Ill. Grd. R. M. to demand the cause why the ballot was deposited. If no sufficient cause is assigned, he then declares the candidate duly elected. The fee of admission shall be Two (2) dollars, and for an adjoining member, Seventy-five (75) cents.

ARTICLE IV.

No Brother shall be permitted to speak more than twice on the same subject without permission from the T. Ill. Grand R. M.

ARTICLE V.

No Brother exalted in any clandestine way within this city after the date of these By-Laws shall be received as visitors in this Grand Council of R. M. M., until he be properly healed, and pay the sum of Seventy-five (75) cents in the Treasury of said Council.

ARTICLE VI.

No visitor shall be permitted to partake of the Refreshment of this Grand Council without paying equal proportion of the expense, except by the unanimous consent of the Council.

New York, 21 April, 1812.

No other business offering, Council closed.

New York, Tuesday, 19th May, 1812.
St. John's Hall, 5 of Sivan, 5572.

At a regular meeting of Columbian Council, the T. Ill. R. G. M's Thos. Lownds in the chair.

Bro. Darius Knight proposed as candidates for exaltation, Bro. Barnard Coles, of Trinity Lodge, and Bro. Augustus Giot, of Abrams Lodge

No other business offering, Council closed with S. S.

New York, Sunday, 21st June, 1812.
St. John's Hall, 10 Tamus, 5572.

This being the regular and constitutional day to hold the election of officers to serve the Council for the ensuing year, the Grd. Council was opened in due form by the Grd. M. Thomas Lownds, and the following brethren were elected officers:

Thomas Lownds.....T. Ill. R. Grd. Master.
Robert Young.....Ill. Dep. Grd. Master.
S. O. Smith.....Ill. Grd. Warden.
John E. Rich.....Grd. R. Master.
Darius Knight.....S. R. Marshal.
S. Dodge.....T. R. Marshal.
Geo. Woodrough.....Herald.
Peter Roome.....Recorder.
John P. Roome.....Treasurer.
John Utt.....Conductor.

The officers being installed and inducted in their several offices.

The Council closed with S. S.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ROYAL M. ORDER.

No person can be admitted a member of this Order, except he has regularly passed through the Three Symbolic Degrees of Masonry.

The stated meetings of a Grand Council shall be holden on the eighth day of every lunar month, when the sun is at its meridian.

The annual election shall take place on the 21st day of June, when the sun is at meridian.

More than two candidates shall not be received at the same time in any Council, as there were but two Grand Masters when H. was K.

The fees of admission shall be left to the discretion of the Grand Council, but every member thereof shall pay into the Funds of said Council the sum of a Didrachan (equal to Twenty-five (25) American cents), on the 8th day of every lunar month.

If on the 8th day of Tamus, if it so falls out, if not on the election day, after all the expenses of the Council be paid, there appears any cash to be left in the treasury, it shall be distributed among the poor members.

New York, Sunday, 8th November, 1812.

St. John's Hall, 3 Kislen, 5573.

At an extra meeting of the Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, the Thrice Illustrious Grand Master Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. John Utt proposed as candidates for exaltation John Robertson, Barnard Coats and Philip Earle, all of Trinity Lodge, No. 7.

Bro. Lownds proposed Bro. John McMillen, of Mount Moriah.

They all four were balloted for, and admitted; being in waiting, came forward, and received the degree of Royal Master Mason.

No other business offering, the Council was closed with S. S.

November 17th, 1812.

St. John's Hall, 12 Kislen, 5573.

At an extra meeting of the Columbian Council of R. M. M., the G. M. Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. Darius Knight proposed as a candidate for this Order, Gould St. John; was balloted for and admitted, and exalted.

No other business, the Council closed with S. S.

New York, Sunday, 22nd November, 1812.

St. John's Hall, 17 Kislen, 5573.

At an extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grand Royal M. Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. John Utt proposed as candidates for this Order Wm. Lee, of Washington Lodge, and Bro. Peter Roome proposed George Davenport, of Royal Arch Lodge, No. 2.

They were balloted for and admitted; being in waiting; came forward and were exalted to this Royal Degree. On motion,

Resolved, That there be a Council of the Knights of the Round Table held on the 29th of the present month.

No other business appearing, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 25th November, 1812, and of our Order of the Round Table.

A Grand Council of the Ill. and Invincible Order of Knights of the Round Table, was held at St. John's Hall, the Ill. Grand Abbot of the Order, Sir Thos. Lownds in the chair.

The following brethren were dubbed Knights of the Order: John McMillan, Geo. G. Davenport, Barnard Coles, Ivory White, Stephen Scudder, William Lee, Francis Dubois, Barker Ward.

No other business appearing, the Council closed.

New York, Sunday, 10th January, 1813.

St. John's Hall, 9 Sebat, 5573.

At an extra meeting of the Columbian Council of R. M. M., the thrice Ill. Grd. M. Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. Garret Lansing proposed as a candidate for exaltation, Asse Hall, of Hiram Lodge, and James Gray and John Jaques, of Phoenix Lodge.

They were all balloted for and admitted; being in waiting, came forward and were exalted to this Ancient and Honorable Degree of Masonry.

No other business offering, the Council closed with S. S.

New York, Thursday, 10th March, 1813.

St. John's Hall, 8 of Veadon, 5573.

At a regular meeting of Columbian Council R. M. M., the T. Ill. Grd. M. Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

The Council opened in Ample Form.

New York, 21st June, 1813.

St. John's Hall, 19 Sivan, 5573.

At a regular meeting of Columbian Council, R. M. M. Thos. Lownds, T. Ill. Grd. M. in the chair.

This being the constitutional day to hold the election for officers, on motion,

Resolved, That this Grand Council proceed to an election. Accordingly the following officers were elected for the ensuing year.

Thomas Lownds.....T. Ill. R. Grd. Master.
Robert Howard.....Ill. D. R. Grd. Master.
John Utt.....Ill. Grd. Warden.
John E. Rich.....Grd. R. Master.
Darius Knight.....S. R. Marshal.
Suell Dodge.....J. R. Marshal.
Geo. Woodrough.....Herald.

Those of the brethren that were not present were installed by proxy. On motion,

Resolved, That this Grand Council stand adjourned till the 8th day of Hesvan, 5574, except an emergency should offer to call it together sooner.

No other business offering, the Council was closed with S. S.

New York, Wednesday, 14th October, 1813.
St. John's Hall, 18 Tisvi, 5574.

At an extra meeting of the Columbian Council, R. M. M., the Ill. Grd. Royal Master Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. Garet Lansing proposed as a candidate for exaltation James Thorburn, Senior Warden of Phoenix Lodge, No. 11, and Bro. John Utt proposed Augustus Ghio, of Abrahams, No. 15, and Stephen Pichells, of Abrahams, No. 15.

They were all balloted for and admitted; being in waiting, came forward and were exalted to the degree of R. M. M.

No other business offering, Council closed with S. S.

New York, Monday, 25th October, 1813.
St. John's Hall, 1st Hesvan, 5574.

At an extra meeting of the Columbian Council of R. M. M., the T. Ill. R. Grd. M. Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. Garet Lansing, proposed for exaltation Bro. James Thorburn, of Phoenix Lodge, and Bro. Robt. Young, proposed James McCabe, of Woods Lodge.

The candidates being in waiting, came forward and had this degree conferred on them.

No other business offering, Council closed in Love and Harmony.

New York, Sunday, 19th December, 1813.
St. John's Hall, 13 Kislen, 5574.

At an extra meeting of Columbia Council of R. M. M., the Thrice Ill. R. Grd. Master Thomas Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. Robt. Young proposed Companion Dyer, of Fredonian Chapter, as a candidate for exaltation. He was balloted for and admitted; being in waiting, come forward, and received the degree of a Royal Master Mason.

No other business appearing, the Council closed with S. S.

New York, Thursday, 20th January, 1814, and of our Ill. Order of the Round Table, 1298.

A Grand Convention was held at St. John's Hall, the Ill. Abbot Sir Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

The following brethren came forward and were dubbed Knights of this Ancient and Honorable Order of the Round Table: Daniel Dyer, Senior Warden Ewing Lodge, Asa Hall, M. E. King of Phoenix Chapter; Thos. White, of Trinity Lodge, No. 10; E. Stanton, of Fredonian Chapter.

Convention closed.

New York, 13th February, 1814.

St. John's Hall, 22 Sebat, 5574.

At an extra meeting of the Columbian Council of R. M. M's, the T. Ill. R. Grd. Master Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. Sewall Dodge proposed brother K. Botsford, of St. John's Lodge, No. 3, Stradford, Conn., and Bro. Young proposed Bro. John W. Briamsmade, of Hiram Lodge, No. 72, Mount Pleasant, N. Y., as candidates.

They were balloted for and admitted; being in waiting, came forward, and were exalted to this Ancient and Royal degree.

No other business offering, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 27th February, 1814.

St. John's Hall, 6 Adar, 5574.

At an extra meeting of Columbian Council, R. M. M's., the T. Ill. R. Grd. Master Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

The Council being opened in Ample Form, Companion Young proposed the following brethren as candidates for this Ill. Order: Walter Stewart, of St. John's No. 2, Delaware, Wm. H. Mott, of R. A., No. 2, N. Y., Saml. Parsons, of R. A., No. 2, N. Y., Nicholas Roberts, of R. A., No. 2, N. Y.

They were balloted for and admitted; being in waiting, came forward and received this Royal degree.

No other business offering, Council closed with S. S.

New York, 28th May, 1815.

Masonic Hall, 17 Yiar, 5575.

At an extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M's., the Thrice Ill. R. Grd. Master Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Bro. G. W. Hyer proposed as candidates for this illustrious Order, Simon Springsteel, Adrian R. Tucker, Daniel Sickles, and Horace Brown.

They were balloted for and unanimously admitted, came forward, and had this ancient and honorable degree conferred on them.

No other business offering, Council closed.

Amor, Honor et Instidid.

New York, 21st June, 1815.

Masonic Hall, 12 Sivan, 5575.

At a regular meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M's., the T. Ill. R. Grd. Master Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

This being the constitutional day for holding of the election. On motion,

Resolved, That this Council of R. M. elect their officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were elected.

Thomas Lownds.....T. Ill. R. Grd. Master.
Asa Hall.....Ill. D. Grd. R. M.
Robert Young.....Ill. S. Grd. R. W.
Edward Higgins.....Grd. R. M.
Francis Dubnor.....S. R. M.
Garet Lansing.....J. R. M.
John Utt.....Herald.
James Verryann.....Guard.

The officers being installed, Council closed in Harmony.

23rd May, 1816.

Masonic Hall, 24 Yiar, 5576.

At an extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M's., the T. Ill. R. Grd. M. Thos. Lownds, in the chair, a Council was opened in due form.

The following brethren came forward and had this A. and R. degree conferred on them:

Garet Morgin, Jacob B. Barns, of Fredonian Chapter, Hasia Dodge, of Fredonian Chapter, Casper W. Eddy, of Eagle Chapter, John Readstone, of Phoenix Chapter, Asa G. Smith, K. of Solomons Chapter, John Niles, of Fredonian Chapter.

No other business offering, Council closed in Harmony.

25th of May, 1816.

Masonic Hall, 26 of Yiar, 5576.

At an extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M's., the T. Ill. R. Grd. Master Thos. Lownds, in the chair, a Grd. Council was opened in due and ancient form.

Bro. Read Stone proposed Bro. John Niles; he was accepted, came forward and has this Royal Degree conferred on him.

No other business offering, Lodge closed.

Amor, Honor et Institid.

New York,, 29th May, 1816, and of our Order.

A Grand Council of Sir Knights of the Round Table was convened at Masonic Hall, the Ill. Abbot Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

The following Companions were admitted as members of this Ancient and Honorable Order, and dubbed according to ancient usage; Samuel Huverak, Hosea Dodge, John Niles, John H. Read Stone, Garet Morgan, Jacob B. Barnes, Garet Lansing, John Ewan, and Nathan Jackson.

The Abbot informed the Sir Knights that on the 21st of June, the election of officers to serve the Grand Council of R. M. M., would take place at Masonic Hall, and requested the members to attend at Meridian, sure.

Grand Council closed.

New York, 21st June, 1816.

Masonic Hall, 18 of Sebuot, 5576.

At a regular meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M's., the T. Ill. Grd. R. M. Thos. Lownds in the chair.

The Council opened at Meridian Sun, in Ample Form.

As this was the anniversary of the Order, it was necessary that the election should take place for officers to serve the ensuing year. Accordingly,

Resolved, That they be as follows:

Sir Thomas Lownds.....T. Ill. Grd. R. M.
Edward Higgins.....Ill. D. Grd. R. M.
Lewis Saymour.....Ill. Grd. R. Warden.
Garit Morgin.....Ill. Grd. Marshal.
John Utt.....Ill. Senior Marshal.
Thadius Saymour.....Ill. Junior Marshal.
John Niles.....Ill. Grd. R. Herald.

The election being completed the Thrice Illustrious observed that the installment of the officers should be suspended until a future meeting, as there were so few of them present, wishing that their next meeting might be on the 8th of Tamus, which fell on the 5th of July, next.

No other business offering, Council closed.

New York, 21st July, 1816.

An extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M. took place at Masonic Hall, on the 18th of Tamus, 5576.

The Thrice Ill. Thos. Lownds in the chair.

The Ill. D. Grd. Master proposed as a candidate for our Ancient and Royal Order Bro. Aaron L. Burnet, of St. John's Lodge, N. J.

The question was taken and came in the affirmative; he being in waiting, came forward and was advanced to this Ancient Order.

Bro. Lansing proposed as candidates for our Order, Bros. Marvarick Witmore, and Md. Kinng, all of Phoenix Lodge, No. 11. On motion,

Resolved, That their names be entered on the minutes of this Council.

No other business offering, Council closed.

New York, 22d September, 1816.

An extra meeting of Columbian Council, of R. M. M's., held at Masonic Hall, on the 28th of Elul, 5576. The T. Ill. Grd. M. Sir Thos. Lownds, in the chair, a Council opened in Ample Form.

The following brethren being in waiting, came forward and received this Ancient and Royal Order: Wm. H. Whitmore, John B. Spicer, Charles Laythorp, George Corral, Saml. Mavarick, John Thompson, Samuel Bets, Robert Gedney, Geo. B. Ramond, Caleb Bacon.

No other business offering, Council closed.

The Knights of the Round Table convened in Council on the 30th of September, 1816.

The Ill. Abbot Thos. Lownds in the chair.

The following Companions were constituted Sir Knights of the Order: Wm. H. Whitmore, John Tellfair, T. M. Nugent, C. Cornell S. Bett, Wm. McKinney, S. C. Sutton, Thos. Durey, Wm. Carlile, G. B. Ramond, D. Adams, Spence Hall, R. Gedney, S. B. Spicer, Frost Thorn, W. S. Grayham, I. B. Burn.

No other business appearing, the Council was closed.

New York, 27th October, 1816.

An extra meeting of Columbian Council, 4 Hesvan, 5577, at Masonic Hall, the T. Ill. R. Grd. M. Thos. Lownds in the chair.

The following Companions received this degree: —. Harrick, of Unity Chapter, S. C., N. De Ross, of Fredonian Chapter, E. Merrett, of Fredonian Chapter, Frost Thorn of Fredonian Chapter.

Council closed.

Amor, Honor et Institid.

New York, 30th March, 1817.

12th of Nissan, 5577.

An extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. M's. took place at Masonic Hall, the T. Ill. R. Grd. M. Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

John Carlile and James R. Stewart were proposed by Sir Samuel Maverick as candidates for this Order. On motion,

Resolved, That they be received, they being in waiting, came forward and had the Ancient and Honorable Order of R. M. M. conferred on them.

No other business, Council closed.

New York, 31st March, 1817.

A Council of R. M. M. convened at Masonic Hall, the Ill. Abbot Thos. Lownds, in the chair.

Silas Lyon was received as an adjoining member of this Order.

The following brethren were admitted and constituted Sir Knights of the Order: Neamiah Allen, John W. Lamb, G. L. Brown, Richd. C. Pearsall, Johnathan Carlton, S. Bray, Edward Noris, John Ferguson, Henry Roff, Saml. McMahin, I. Gardner, P. T. Cunningham, Saml. Brotherton, N. T. Eldredge, —. McCauley, John Johnstone, E. Clave, C. Lathorp, D. Ackerman, A. Marton, I. Bennit, D. Munday, John Thompson, E. S. Billamy, Geo. McKinley, Nicholas De Ross.

New York, 21st June, 1817.

At a constitutional meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, held at Masonic Hall, on 6th of Tamas, 5577, the T. Ill. Thos. Lownds in the chair.

Council opened in Ample Form. The T. Ill. informed the members that this was the regular day for electing officers to serve this Grand Council for the ensuing year, and the following brethren were unanimously elected.

Thos. Lownds.....T. Ill. R. Grd. Master.
Edward Higgins.....D. Grd. R. Master.
Garet Morgan.....Ill. Grd. R. Warden.
Samuel Maverick.....Ill. Grd. Marshal.
Levi Nathens.....Ill. Senior Grd. Marshal.
John Thompson.....Ill. Junior Grd. Marshal.
Wm. McKinney.....Grd. Herald.
Wm. Craig.....Ill. Grand Treasurer.
Silas Lyon.....Ill. Grand Recorder.
Hasa Dodge.....Ill. Grand Outside Sentinel.

The election being completed and no other business offering, Council closed.

Amor, Honor et Institid.

New York, October 18th, 1817.

At an extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M., at Masonic Hall, 7th Hervan, 5578, the T. Ill. R. Grd. M. T. Lownds, in the chair, with others duly assembled, the Council opened in due form.

The following Companions came forward and were advanced to this Ancient Order: Harman Westervelt, of Fredonian Chapter, John Barker, of Fredonian Chapter, Daniel McGibbon, of No. 13, Bridgeport, Tobias W. Bedell, of Fredonian Chapter, Edward S.

Belamy, of Phoenix Chapter, John Telfair, of Fredonian Chapter, Joseph Potter, of Columbian Encampment.

Fees received of the above mentioned candidates..$14.00.

Paid by order of the Council,

Comp. Bellamy's bill for printing.....	$2.00	
Tyler's fee	1.00	
For room and candles.....	1.50—	4.50.
Balance in the hands of T. Seymour....		$9.50.

No further business offering, Council adjourned to meet on the first Saturday of November.

New York, November 6th, 1817.

Council met according to adjournment, and no business offering, Council closed.

New York, December 6th, 1817.

At an extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M., at Masonic Hall, 24th Kislin, 5578, the T. Ill. R. Grd. M. Thos. Lownds in the chair, with others duly assembled, the Council opened in due form.

The following Companions came forward and were advanced to this Ancient and Honorable Order: Wm. B. Adams, of Ancient Chapter, James D. Wadsworth, of Orange Chapter, 33.

The following petition from the Thrice Illustrious Benjamin Gleason, R. Grd. M. in behalf of a Council of R. M., in the town of Boston, Massachusetts, was received, unanimously accepted, and Companions Saml. Maverick, T. Ill. T. Lownds, S. Lyon, A. Hall, and G. Morgan, were appointed a committee to draft an answer sanctioning their proceedings.

Comp. Maverick proposed Comp. John T. Lacy as an adjoining member; on motion,

Resolved, That his name be entered on the minutes.

Fees received of Comps. Adams and Wadsworth..$4.00.

No other business offering, the Council closed.

New York, November 27th, A. L., 5817.

To the Officers and Members of the Council of Royal Masters in the City of New York:

This petition respectfully showeth that a Council of Royal Masters has been established in the town of Boston, within the present year, is duly organized and in successful operation, having their regular meetings Quarterly—the last Tuesday of January, April, July and October. They acknowledge with much respect the senior establishment in New York, and with their associates do honor to the same. It is their wish to obtain a written sanction from your respected Council, that they may be confirmed in their masonic labors, and be in Fraternal correspondence with each other.

In behalf of the Boston Council, I am, Gentlemen and Companions,

Respectfully yours,

BENJ. GLEASON, T. Ill. R. Grd. M.

New York, 22nd December, 1817.

At an extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M., held at Masonic Hall, 13th Tibet, 5578, the T. Ill. Grd. M. T. Lownds in the chair, Council opened in Ample Form.

The following Comps. being in waiting, came forward, and were advanced to this Ancient and Royal Order: David Curtis, Charles Rose, of Fredonian Chapter, John Charles, of Fredonian Chapter. Fees received of the above mentioned candidates $6.00.

No other business offering, Council closed.

Super Excellent Masters Lodge opened in Ample Form.

The following Companions being in waiting, came forward and received the degree of S. E. M.; John C. Mayell, Tobias W. Bedell, Charles Rose, Edward S. Bellamy, H. Westervelt.

Fees received of the above named candidates, $5.00.

The committee appointed at the preceding meeting reported the form of a sanction for the Council of R. M. at Boston, which was approved and ordered to be sent to them.

No further business offering, Lodge closed.

New York, December 28th, 1817.

At an extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M., held at Masonic Hall, 19th Tibet, 5576, the T. Ill. Grd. M. T. Lownds in the chair, Council opened in Ample Form.

John T. Lacy and Benjamin Tyler were unanimously admitted as adjoining members, and Leonard Denison, being in waiting, came forward and was advanced to this Ancient and Royal Order.

Fees received of above named candidates, $3.50.

No other business offering, Council closed.

New York, December 29th, 1817.

At an extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M., held at Masonic Hall, 20th Tibet, 5578, Super Excellent Masters Lodge opend in Ample Form.

The following Companions being in waiting, came forward, and received the degree of S. E. M.: John T. Lacy, Benjamin Tyler, L. Denison.

Fees received of the above named candidates, $3.00.

No other business offering, Lodge closed.

New York, 31st December, 1817.

At an extra meeting of Sir Knights of the Round Table, the Ill. Abbot Thos. Lownds in the chair.

The following brethren came forward and were dubbed Knights of the Order: Elam Bliss, Gair Blanchard, Wm. W. Tomkins, Joseph Potter, —. Parker, G. W. Brown, M. R. Botsford, B. McGinnis, —. Thompson, Leonard Denison, Harman Westervelt, John I. Lacy, Benj. Tyler, Tobias W. Bedell.

No further business offering, closed in Harmony.

Paid Ill. T. Lownds' bill....	$12.50	
And expenses.....	10.00	
		$22.50

S. LYON, Secy.

New York, March 1st, 1818.

At an extra meeting of Columbia Council of R. M., held at Masonic Hall, the Thrice Ill. G. M. T. Lownds in the chair.

Council opened in Ample Form.

Companions Joel Thorp and Saul Simers, being in waiting, came forward and were advanced to this Ancient and Royal Order.

No other business offering, Council closed.

Paid for Room rent, $1.50. Fees, $4.00.

Super Excellent Masters Lodge opened. Companions Thorp and Simers being in waiting, again came forward and received the degree of S. E. M.

No further business, Lodge closed.

Fees, $2.00.

New York, March 31st, 1818.

At an extra meeting of Columbian Council of R. M., held at Masonic Hall, Thrice Ill. T. Lownds in the chair, Council opened in Ample Form.

Companions B. W. Peck, G. Blanchard and Owen Devine, were advanced to this Royal Order. Closed.

S. E. M. Lodge opened, and the said Companions received the degree of S. E. Master.

Lodge closed.

New York, April 3rd, 1818.

At an extra meeting of Sir Knights of the Round Table, the Ill. Abbot T. Lownds in the chair.

The following brethren came forward and were dubbed Knights of the Order: Samuel E. Betts, Smith Ovett, James Smith, James Westervelt, Richard Darnwick, Henry P. Beers, R. E. Purdy, Wm. F. Ingalls, Henry Worthington, I. McHand, Geo. B. Reece, S. H. Rogers, Pier Teller, Geo. D. Brown, J. C. Hallett, J. R. Knapp.

Fanning closed. Expenses paid $——.

S. LYON, Recorder.

New York, April 21st, 1818.

At an extra meeting of Sir Knights of the Round Table, the Ill. Abbot T. Lownds in the chair.

The following brethren came forward and were dubbed Knights of the Order: —. Harrington, —. Brown, —. Byrnes, —. Fitzgerald, —. Kneeland, —. Avry, Wm. J. Romer, —. Stone, Ed. Hamilton, Oliver Mugee, J. W. Sanford.

Nothing further offering, closed in Harmony.

Expenses paid $——. S. LYON, Recorder.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, held at Masonic Hall, June 28th, 1818, for the purpose of choosing officers, the following were duly elected:

Brother Thomas Lownds...T. Ill. G. R. Master.
Brother Levi Nathan....Ill. Dep. G. R. Master.
Brother Silas Lyon.....Ill. G. R. W.
Brother —— Potter.....Ill. G. R. M.
Brother —— Blanchard.....S. G. R. M.
Brother W. Bedell.....J. G. R. M.
Brother H. Westervelt.....Treasurer.
Brother B. W. Peck.....Recorder.
Brother S. Maverick.....Herald.
Brother H. Dodge.....Sentinel.

Nothing further offering, closed in Harmony.

H. WESTERVELT, Secy.

At a Council of Royal Master Masons, held at No. 55 Nassau St., Friday evening, August 21st, 5818.

Present: Th. Ill. Bro. Lownds, G. R. M., and Ill. Bro. Nathan, King, and other brethren assembled, and opened in due form.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

James Hume, Geo. Howard, John G. Munn, and Seth Riggs were proposed for initiation and unanimously admitted.

Bro. Geo. B. Smith was proposed as an adjoining member and unanimously admitted.

Bros. James Hume, Geo. Howard, John G. Munn, and Seth Riggs, came forward and received this Ancient and Honorable degree.

Closed in Harmony.

Same evening Council of S. E. Masters was opened when the same brethren again came forward and received this degree.

Cash received and paid Treasurer, $12.75.

New York, March 31st, 5819.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Masters held at St. John's Hall, No. 8 Frankfort Street.

Present: Th. Ill. Bro. Lownds, G. R. Master, Ill. Bro. Bedell, I. R. G. M., Ill. Bro. Lyon, S. G. Warden, and other brethren duly assembled. R. Masters opened in due form.

The minutes of the last meeting (of August 21st, 5818), were read and approved.

Bros. James Duke, Tho. Slade, Richard Byrnes, Wm. G. Cunningham, were proposed and unanimously accepted, came forward and received the degree of Royal Master.

Bros. Ransom Beach, John W. Gibbs and Christian Truss as adjoining members were unanimously admitted.

R. M. closed.

The S. E. M. degree was then opened when Companions James Duke, Tho. Slade, Richard Byrnes, W. G. Cunningham, Ransom Beach and J. W. Gibbs, came forward and receved the degree of S. E. M.

Collected from Bro.	Thos. Slade	$3.00
	James Duke	3.00
	Wm. Cunningham	3.00
	Ransom Beach	1.75

No further business offering, closed.

B. W. PECK, Recorder.

Due from	Richard Byrnes	$3.00
	C. Truss	1.75
	J. W. Gibbs	1.75

New York, March 31st, 5819.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Masters held at St. John's Hall, No. 8 Frankfort St.

Present: Thos. Lownds, R. G. M., —. Bedell, D. R. G. M., S. Lyon, S. G. W., and a number of other brethren duly assembled.

R. M. Lodge was opened in due form, the minutes of the last meeting (of August) were read and approved.

Bros. James Duke, Thomas Slade, Richard Byrnes, and Wm. G. Cunningham, were proposed for advancement to the Ancient and Honorable degree of a R. M. and unanimously accepted.

Bros. Ransom Beach, John W. Gibbs and Christian Truss as adjoining members who were unanimously admitted.

Bros. Thos. Slade, Wm. G. Cunningham, Richard Byrnes and James Duke, came forward and received the degree of R. M., which Lodge was then closed and a Super E. M. Lodge opened, when Bros. James Duke, Thos. Slade, Richard Byrnes, Wm. G. Cunningham, Ransom Beach and John W. Gibbs came forward and received the degree of a S. E. M.

Collected from Bro. Thos. Slade	$3.00	
James Duke	3.00	
Wm. G. Cunningham	3.00	
Ransom Beach	1.75	$10.75

No further business appearing, the Lodge was duly closed.

Signed:

B. W. PECK, Recorder.

At a regular meeting of Columbian Council, R. M. M., held at St. John's Hall, Frankfort St., New York, July 2d, 5819, for the purpose of electing officers to serve the ensuing year, a R. M. lodge was opened, and the following members unanimously elected to serve:

Bro. Thomas Lownds	Thrice Ill. R. G. M.
John G. Munn	Deputy Ill. R. G. M.
Garret Lansing	G. Warden.
Joseph Potter	M. G. R. Marshal.
Gair Blanchard	S. G. R. M.
Pierre T. Deceevee	J. G. R. M.
B. W. Peck	G. R. Herald.
John W. Gibbs	G. R. Recorder.
Silas Lyon	G. R. Treasurer.
John Utt	G. R. Conductor.
Hosea Dodge	G. R. Sentinel.

Bro. John G. Munn, proposed Bro. Thos. W. Cummings as an adjoining member, and he was unanimously elected.

Adjourned until Sunday, 18th inst., at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Signed: B. W. PECK, Recorder.

New York, July 18th, 5819.

Agreeable to adjournment, the Columbian Council of Royal M. met at St. John's Hall, Frankfort St., when the Thrice Ill. Royal Grd. M. proceeded to install the officers elect, which was regularly done in due form.

No other business appearing before the Council, the same was closed in Harmony.

JOHN W. GIBBS, Recorder.

New York City, 29th November, 5819.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. Masons held at St. John's Hall, Frankfort Street, No. 8.

Present: Th. Ill. Thos. Lownds, G. R. M., and a number of brethren duly assembled, a Royal Masters Lodge was opened in due form.

On motion, the reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with.

Bros. Joseph Homer, and Alexander Fraser, were proposed for advancement to the Ancient and Honorable degree of R. M., and unanimously accepted.

Bros. J. S. Reynolds, Joseph Taylor, Joseph Homer, Alex. Fraser and W. F. Pyatt, were then brought forward and received the degree of Royal Master.

The Committee who were appointed to revise the Bye-Laws made report accompanied with a draft of Bye-Laws.

The subject was then taken up and the two first articles agreed to, when on motion the remainder were dispensed with for the present.

The Royal Masters Lodge was then closed and a S. E. Masters Lodge opened, when Brothers Reynolds, Taylor, Homer, Fraser, Pyatt and Thorburn, were brought forward, and received the degree of S. E. M.

No other business appearing, the Council closed in due form with S. C.

THOS. SLADE, Recorder, *pro tem.*

Bros. Homer, Fraser, Reynolds and Taylor paid each three dollars; Bro. Thorburn, one dollar; and Brother Pyatt paid to Brother Dodge, three dollars.

Same evening as above, the Council was again opened, when the business of the Bye-Laws was taken up, and after some amendments being made the further consideration was postponed till the next regular meeting.

Closed in due form.

THOS. SLADE, Recorder, *pro tem.*

At a regular meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, held at St. John's Hall, June 21st, 1820.

Present: Th. Ill. Thos. Lownds, G. Royal Master, and a number of brethren duly convened, the Council was opened in due form.

It being the annual election, the Council proceeded to that business, when the following brethren were elected for the year ensuing:

Silas Lyon.....Th. Ill. G. R. M.
Garrit Lansing.....Dep. G. R. M.
Hosea Dodge.....Grand Warden.
P. T. Deuvee.....G. R. Marshal.
J. Jones.....J. G. R. Marshal.
Tho. Slade.....G. R. Recorder.
C. Bacon.....G. R. Treasurer.
B. W. Peck.....G. R. Herald.
Joseph Potter.....Conductor.
John Utt.....Sentinel.

No further business offering, the Council adjourned to meet on Sunday evening, the 9th of July next, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

At an adjourned meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, held at St. John's Hall, July 9th, 1820.

Present: Thos. Lownds, Th. Ill. Grd. R. Master, and a number of brethren duly convened, the Council was opened in the R. M. degree, when the officers elected on the 21st June, were duly installed.

The Standing Committee were then elected consisting of the following brethren, viz: Garrit Lansing, Silas Lyon, Hosea Dodge, Joseph Potter, P. T. Deuvee.

Resolved, That the Standing Committee, examine the records and general concerns of the Council, and make report thereon together with the state of the funds, at the next meeting.

Isaac M. Camp, of Fredonia Chapter, was proposed for admission as adjoining member.

No further business offering, the Council closed with Solemn Ceremony.

THO. SLADE, G. R. Recorder.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, held at St. John's Hall, October 15th, 1820.

Present: Thrice Ill. Thos. Lownds, P. R. G. M,, and a number of brethren duly assembled, the Council was opened in the Royal Masters degree.

Bro. Saml. Torres, being duly proposed, was brought forward and received the Illustrious degree of Royal M.

No further business offering, the Council was closed with Sol. Cer.

THOS. SLADE, G. R. Recorder.

Bro. Torres paid Two dollars.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of R. Master Masons, held at St. John's Hall, October 22nd, 1820.

Present: Thos. Lownds, Th. Ill. G. R. M. and a number of brethren duly convened, the Council was opened in the Royal Masters degree.

Bros. Tho. Jones, Wm. G. Hyde, and Chas. Niven were duly prepared, and received the degree of Royal Master.

No further business offering, closed with Solemn Ceremonies.

A Lodge of S. E. M. was then opened in due and ancient form.

Bros. T. Jones, Charles Niven, B. Camp, and Geo. McKinley were admitted and received the degree of S. E. M.

A bill from Bro. John Utt for tyling, amounting to Two dollars was presented and passed, likewise paid.

No further business offering, closed in due form.

THO. SLADE, G. R. Recorder.

Bro. Tho. Jones paid	$3.00	
Charles Niven paid	3.00	
Wm. G. Hyde paid	2.00	
Isaac B. Camp paid	1.75	
G. M. McKinley paid	1.00	$10.75

Paid Tyler, $2.00.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of R. Masters, held at St. John's Hall, December 3rd, 1820.

Present: Thos. Lownds, Th. Ill. P. G. R. M., and a number of brethren duly convened. Opened in the degree of Royal Master.

The minutes of the last meeting read and approved. Bro. Dodge's bill for room, candles, etc., to the amount of $22.74, passed for payment if found correct by the Recorder.

Bro. Martin Bryant was proposed, admitted and received the degree of Royal Master. Closed with solemn ceremonies, and opened a Lodge of S. E. Masters.

Bro. Bryant and Heathcot Griffen were brought forward, and received the degree.

Closed in Harmony.

THO. SLADE, G. R. Recorder.

Bro. Bryant paid Three dollars, $3.00
Bro. Griffen paid One dollar, $1.00 $4.00

Paid the Tyler, One dollar.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, held at St. John's Hall, March 19th, 1821.

Present: Thos. Lownds, T. Ill. G. R. M., and a number of brethren duly assembled. The Council was opened in the Royal Masters degree. The minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Bros. Danl. West, Aaron Kemp, Wm. McQueen and Edwd. C. Ward, were proposed, admitted and received the degree of R. Master.

Council closed, and Lodge of S. Excellent Masters opened.

Brothers West, Kemp, McQueen, and Ward brought forward and received the degree of S. Excellent Master.

Geo. W. Gracie was proposed as a candidate for the degrees given in this Council.

Collected of Brothers West, Kemp, McQueen and Ward each Three dollars, and paid One dollar to John Utt, the Sentinel.

Closed with S. C.

THO. SLADE, Recorder.

$12.00.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of R. Master Masons, held at St. John's Hall, April 8th, 1821.

Present: Silas Lyon, Th. Ill. G. R. M., and a number of brethren duly convened. Opened in the Royal Master's degree.

Bros. James C. Leffingwell, Francis Obry, Anthony Thompson, and Garret Stack, were proposed, duly admitted, and received the degree of Royal Master.

Council closed, and a Lodge of Super Excellent Masters opened.

Bros. Leffingwell, Obry, Thompson, and Stack were brought forward and received the degree of S. Excellent Master.

The Tyler's bill for this meeting of $1.50 passed.

No further business offering, closed with solemn ceremonies.

THOS. SLADE, G. R. Recorder.

Collected of Obry, Thompson and Stack, each Three dollars, $9.00.

Paid the Tyler, $1.50.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Masters, held at St. John's Hall, April 22nd, 1821.

Present: Silas Lyon, Th. Ill. G. R. M., and a number of brethren duly convened. Opened the degree of Royal Master.

Daniel R. Cassidy was proposed for admission into this Council, ordered that his name be placed on the minutes.

Bro. Geo. W. Gracie was duly prepared, brought forward, and received this Ancient and Honorable degree.

Council closed, and a Lodge of S. E. Masters opened.

Bros. Gracie, and Wm. Hampton came forward and received this degree, and paid for the same.

Closed with solemn ceremonies.

THO. SLADE, G. R. Recorder.

Collected $4.00. Paid Tyler, $1.25.
June 15th, Bro. James C. Leffingwell, paid $3.00.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. Masons, held at St. John's Hall, June 21st, 1821.

Present: Silas Lyon, Th. Ill. G. R. Master, and a number of brethren duly assembled. Opened in the degree of Royal Master.

The minutes of the last meeting read and approved. Proceeded to the election of officers.

Brother Silas Lyon was elected. Th. Ill. G. R. Master.
Garret Lansing.....Dep. G. R. Master.
Hosea Dodge.....Grand Warden.
P. T. Durvee.....G. R. Marshal.
G. Morgan.....S. G. R. Marshal.
B. W. Pack.....J. G. R. Marshal.
Tho. Slade.....G. R. Recorder.
Ransom Beach.....Treasurer.
Isaac B. Camp.....G. R. Herald.
James C. Leffingwell.....Conductor.
John Utt.....Sentinel.

Adjourned to Sunday, 1st July, at 6 o'clock, P. M.

July 1st, adjourned to Sunday next, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

Bro. Leffingwell proposed Jared L. Moore as a candidate for admission to this Council; the question being taken, was unanimous in his favor. He was then brought forward and received the degree of Royal Master.

Bros. Beach and Leffingwell were installed in their offices.

A bill of the Tyler of Two dollars was ordered for payment.

No further business offering, closed with solemn ceremonies.

THO. SLADE, G. R. Recorder.

Bro. Moore paid Two (2) dollars.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, held at St. John's Hall, September 2nd, 1821.

Present: Silas Lyon, Th. Ill. G. R. Master, and a number of brethren duly convened, opened the degree of Royal Master.

The minutes of the last meeting read and approved. Bro. Wm. Tissup was proposed as an adjoining member, and duly admitted.

Bros. Archibald McCoulon and Oliver M. Lownds were proposed as candidates for receiving the degrees given in this Council.

The question being taken, they were unanimously accepted; they were then duly prepared, came forward and received the degree of Royal Master.

Bro. Nathan H. Sayre was proposed as a candidate for admission into this Council; ordered that his name be entered on the minutes.

The Tyler's bill of $1.75 for this meeting was passed for payment.

No further business offering, closed with S. Ceremonies.

THO. SLADE, G. R. Recorder.

Brothers McCoulin and Lownds paid each Two dollars.
Brother Jessup paid Seventy-five cents.

At a meeting of Columbian Council held at St. John's Hall, September 6th, 1821.

Present: Thos. Lownds, Th. Ill. G. R. Master, and a number of Brethren duly convened. A Super Excellent Masters Lodge was opened in due form.

Brothers Wm. Jessup and Christian Truss were duly proposed and received this degree.

The Tyler's bill for One dollar for this meeting passed for payment.

Closed in due form.

THO. SLADE, G. R. Recorder.

Brother Jessup, paid $1.00.
Paid the Tyler.....$1.00.

New York, November 25th, 1821.

At a meeting of Select Masters Council, held at St. John's Hall.

Present: Thos. Lownds, Th. Ill. G. R. Master. Opened the degree of Select Master or twenty-seven.

The following brethren were duly admitted, and received this degree: Samuel S. Burtsell, Garret Stack, Daniel West, Tho. Slade, Ransom Beach, Ralph Malborn, Joel Curtiss, Jared L. Moore, John Bowker, and John Allen.

The above brethren paid, each, Two dollars. The following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, the Ill. Thos. Lownds, etc.

Closed in due form.

THO. SLADE, Recorder.

Received of Thos. Slade Two dollars for tyling the Council of Select Masters, November 25th, 1821.

JOHN UTT.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Masters, held at St. John's Hall, December 2nd, 1821.

Present: Thos. Lownds, Th. Ill. G. R. Master, and a number of brethren duly convened. The Council opened in the Royal Master's degree.

Bro. Lyon proposed Bro. Saml. Birdsall, of Rising Sun Chapter, as a candidate for this degree. The question being taken he was duly accepted, brought forward and received the degree of R. Master.

A communication was received from the Council of Select Masters informing them that they are willing to be united and come into the Council of Royal Masters. The question being taken, it was unanimously agreed that we accept of the proposal, and

Resolved, That the fees for the degree of Select Master be Two (2) dollars.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to revise the Bye-laws.

Bros. Slade, Lyon, Peck, Jones and O. M. Lownds were appointed.

Bro. Joseph Wood was proposed for the Super-excellent degree.

The Tyler's bill for One dollar passed for payment.

Closed the R. M. degree, and opened that of Select Master.

Bro. Wm. Jessup was then brought forward and received this degree. Closed in Harmony.

Adjourned to meet again on Sunday, at 6 o'clock, P. M.

THO. SLADE, G. R. Recorder.

Bro. Jessup paid.....$2.00
Bro. Birdsall paid..... 2.00

December 9th, 1821. Columbian Council met agreeable to adjournment.

Bro. Dodge, proposed Bro. James J. Guedren as a candidate for admission into this Council. The question being taken, he was unanimously accepted, duly prepared, came forward, and received the degree of R. Master.

Bro. Dodge proposed Bro. Chas. Herwick, of Rising Sun Chapter, as a candidate for admission; ordered that his name be entered on the minutes.

Adjourned to meet again on Sunday next, at 6 o'clock, P. M. Bro. Guedron paid Two dollars.

December 16th. Met agreeably to adjournment.

The question on the admission of Bro. Charles Herwick was taken, and he was unanimously admitted.

The committee for the revision of the Bye-Laws reported, that they had not been able to complete the business for which they were appointed.

Resolved, That they be allowed further time, and report at the next meeting.

The Th. Ill. Bro. Lyon proposed Peter Brewer, of Jerusalem Chapter, as a candidate for admission into this Council. Ordered that his name be entered on the minutes.

Brother Herwick was then prepared, came forward and received the degree of Royal Master.

Lucius Q. C. Bowles was proposed as an adjoining member, and unanimously admitted.

Adjourned to Sunday, the 30th inst., at 6 o'clock, P. M.

A small number of brethren met agreeably to adjournment; but no business was done.

THOMAS SLADE, G. R. Recorder.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of R. M. Masons, held at St. John's Hall, December 31st, 1821.

Present: Thos. Lownds, Th. Ill. P. G. R. M., and a number of brethren duly convened, opened the R. Masters degree.

The reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with.

Brothers John Coates and James Prideaux were proposed as candidates for admission into this Council. The question being taken they were unanimously accepted, duly prepared, came forward and received the degree of R. M.

Closed the R. M. and opened that of S. E. Master. Bros. Coates and Prideaux were duly prepared, came forward and received this degree.

Closed the S. E. and opened that of Select Master. Bros. Coates and Prideaux were admitted and received this degree.

The Tyler's bill of Two dollars passed for payment.

Resolved, That Six dollars be presented to our worthy Brother Silas Lyon.

Closed in Solemn Form.

THO. SLADE, G. R. Recorder.

Bro. Bowles paid.....	$0.75	
Coates paid.....	5.00	
Prideaux paid...	5.00	$10.75

At a meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, held at St. John's Hall, April 30th, 1822.

Present: Hosea Dodge, Th. Ill. G. R. M., *pro tem.*, and a number of brethren duly convened, opened the degree of Royal Master.

The minutes of the two last meetings were read and approved.

The committee for revising the Bye-Laws made report accompanied with a draft of Bye-Laws which, after being read and duly considered, were adopted as follows, viz:

BYE-LAWS OF COLUMBIAN GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL MASONS.

ARTICLE I.

SECTION 1. This Council shall be known and designated Columbian Grand Council of Royal Master Masons in and for the City of New York.

SEC. 2. An election of officers shall take place on the 21st day of June annually, when the Sun is at its meridian height, at which time the following officers shall be chosen, viz:

Thrice Illustrious G. Royal Master.
Dep. G. Royal Master.
G. Royal Warden.
G. Royal Marshal.
S. G. Royal Marshal.
J. G. Royal Marshal.
Recorder.
Treasurer.
Herald.
Conductor.
Sentinel.

and they shall be installed in their respective offices within one lunar month from the time of their election.

SEC. 3. All elections shall be by ballot, with the name fairly written, and a majority of the votes given by the members present shall be necessary to make a choice.

ARTICLE II.

SECTION 1. The regular meetings of this Council shall be on the eighth day of every lunar month, but the Th. Ill. G. R. M. shall have power to call an extra meeting whenever he may think it expedient.

ARTICLE III.

SECTION 1. Candidates may be proposed and balloted for at one and the same meeting, but if requested by one or more members, the balloting shall be postponed to a subsequent meeting.

SEC. 2. In balloting, two black balls shall exclude, but, if one only appears, the ballot shall be taken a second time, and if

one appears then, the reason may be required by the Th. Ill. G. R. M., when if approved by a majority present, the candidates shall be rejected, but if not he may be admitted.

SEC. 3. The fees for receiving the orders given in this Council shall be Two dollars for the R. M.; One dollar for the S. E. Master; and Two dollars for the Select of Twenty-seven, and Seventy-five cents for an Adjoining Member.

ARTICLE IV.

The Recorder shall keep a correct account of the proceedings of the Council, with a regular list of the members' names, fill the notices for the members, and deliver them to the Sentinel, and receive all moneys due the Council, and pay them into the hands of the Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor. And he shall be entitled to such compensation for his services as shall from time to time be considered just and equitable by a majority.

ARTICLE V.

The Treasurer shall receive the funds of the Council and keep an accurate account of the same, pay none out without the order of the T. Ill. G. R. M. by vote of the Council, submit his books for inspection whenever called upon by the Th. Ill. G. R. Master of the Council.

ARTICLE VI.

At the annual election a committee of three shall be appointed who shall be denominated the standing committee, who shall examine into the character of candidates when directed so to do, and annually examine the Recorder's and Treasurer's books and report thereon, together with a statement of the funds, prior to the election.

ARTICLE VII.

SECTION 1. Each member shall pay annually the sum of Twenty-five cents into the funds.

SEC. 2. No member shall be eligible to office, or vote at an election unless he shall have paid all his dues to the Council.

SEC. 3. Every member who shall neglect for the space of six months to pay his dues, which had accrued prior to an election, shall be reported by the Recorder and his name shall be struck off from the list of members, except in case of absence from the city, when he shall be allowed three months after his return, for paying the same.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Sentinel shall serve the notices to the members, prepare

the room, guard the door during the session of this Council, and for his services shall be entitled to One dollar and fifty cents for each session.

ARTICLE IX.

SECTION 1. No person shall be continued a member or admitted as such, unless he will conform to all the rules and regulations of this Council.

SEC. 2. No person shall be admitted as a visitor, except he acknowledge the jurisdiction of this Council, and in all things will conform to the regulations thereof.

ARTICLE X.

Propositions for alterations or amendments to the Bye-Laws shall be made at a regular meeting and laid over to at least another regular meeting and a majority of two-thirds of the members present shall be necessary to effect the same.

ARTICLE XI.

The foregoing articles and actions shall take effect on and after the election on the 21st day of June 1822.

Adopted 30th April, 1822.

On motion,

Resolved, That the code of bye-laws adopted by this Council be transcribed by the Recorder and a copy thereof presented to each member of the same for his signature, and that any one who shall refuse to sign the same shall no longer be considered a member.

Reuben W. Folger and Benjamin Atterbury were proposed as candidates for admission into this Council.

No further business offering, closed.

THOMAS SLADE, Recorder.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, held at St. John's Hall, May 18th, 1822.

Present: Thomas Lownds, T. Ill. Grand R. M., and a number of brethren duly assembled, opened the Royal Masters degree.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

On motion, adjourned this degree for a short space of time, and opened the degree of Super Excellent Master.

Bros. Jared L. Moore, Joseph Wood, Reuben W. Folger and John C. Gelston were duly prepared, brought forward and received this degree.

Closed the S. E. and resumed that of the Royal Master. Wm. H. Wetmore and George Scriba were proposed as candidates.

Bro. Dodge's bill amounting to $17.00, passed for payment, if found correct by the Recorder.

The Tyler's bill of One dollar and fifty cents passed for payment.

Bros. Dodge, Lansing and Coates were appointed a committee to settle with the Recorder and report what compensation is proper to allow him for his services.

Bros. Moore, Folger and Gelston paid each One dollar; Bro. Woods paid one dollar for the degree, and seventy-five cents as an adjoining member.

Closed in due form.

THOMAS SLADE, G. R. Recorder.

May 22. Brother Christian Truss paid $1.75.
Brother Chas. Herwick paid $2.00.

At a meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons held at St. John's Hall, June 21st, 1822.

Present: Gerrit Lansing, Th. Ill. Grand R. M., *pro tem.*, and a number of brethren duly convened, opened the degree of Royal Master.

The Committee appointed to settle with the Recorder, made report, which was accepted.

It being the Constitutional time for election, proceed to that business, and elected

O. M. Lownds.....Th. Ill. G. R. M.
W. F. Piatt.....D. G. R. M.
W. Bedell.....G. W.
I. B. Camp.....G. M.
J. L. Moore.....S. G. M.
R. Byrne.....J. G. M.
T. Slade.....Recorder
Ed Higgins.....Treasurer
Aaron Kemp.....Herald
Ransom Beach.....Conductor
John Utt.....Sentinel

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

Resolved, That the 2nd section of the first article of the bye-laws be so amended as to admit of the election of Officers on the twenty-first of June without regard to the hour of the day.

Adjourned to Sunday, 30th inst. at 2 o'clock, P. M.

Report of the Committee appointed to settle with the Secretary:

The Committee appointed by the Council to examine the Secretary's books and vouchers, beg leave to report that they have attended to that duty and find that the money received from Oct. 15th, 1820, to May 22d, 1822, amounts to $77.75

Expended during the time....	73.86
Leaving a balance of..	3.89

Further, That in their opinion Bro. Slade ought to receive the sum of $5.00, as a remuneration for his faithful services.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. Coates)
G. Lansing } Committee.
Hosea Dodge)

The report was accepted.

June 30th, 1822.

Columbian Council met agreeable to adjournment, and after reading the minutes of the Election proceeded to the installation of the Officers.

The T. Ill. P. G. R. M. Thomas Lownds installed the G. R. Master elect, who then proceeded to and installed the other officers.

Bro. Joel Curtiss was proposed as a candidate for admission into this Council. There being no objections, the ballot was taken and found unanimous in his favor. He was duly prepared, brought forward, and received the degree of R. M.

The Standing Committee was then appointed consisting of the Th. Ill. G. R. M., Bros. W F. Slade and Hosea Dodge.

Closed with solemn ceremonies.

THO. SLADE, Recorder.

Bro. Curtiss paid $2.00.

At a regular meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Masters, held at St. John's Hall, Dec. 21st, 1822.

Present: Oliver Lownds, Th. Ill. G. R. M., and a number of brethren duly convened, opened the degree of Royal Master.

Bro. Peck proposed Companion Tho. Oliver, of Fredonian Chapter as a candidate for admission to this Council.

Bro. Camp proposed Companion Smith Ely, of Fredonian Chapter as a candidate. On motion

Resolved, That our Past G. R. Master be empowered to communicate the degree of Select Master to Bros. Wm. T. Piatt, J. B. Camp and John Niles.

The following resolution was offered by the Th. Ill. G. Royal Master, viz:

Resolved, That the regular meetings of this Council for the year 1823, shall take place on the 30th day of January, 31st March, 30th April, 30th May, 21st June, 30th June, 30th July, 30th Aug't, 30th September, 30th October, 29th November, 30th December, and that the Th. Ill. G. Royal Master shall have power to call an extra meeting whenever he may deem it expedient, and the 2nd Article of the by-laws be, and the same is, hereby repealed. The same was laid over to the next meeting.

The following Companions were proposed as candidates for the degrees given in this Council: Geo. Scriba, John W. Vithaka, Richard Pennel and Wm. E. Ross.

No further business offering, closed with solemn ceremonies.

THO. SLADE, Recorder.

At a meeting of Columbian Grand Council of Royal Masters held at St. John's Hall, January 18th, 1823.

Present: The Th. Ill. Oliver M. Lownds, G. R. M., and a number of brethren duly convened, opened the degree of Royal Master.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following Companions were proposd for admission into this Council, Lebbens Chapman, of Rising Sun Chapter. The ballot was taken and declared unanimous in his favor.

Companion Wm. C. Lee, of Rising Sun Chapter, and Companion Daniel G. Nivin, of Ancient Chapter, were proposed for admission.

Bros. Thos. Oliver, Smith Ely, Wm. C. Lee, and Daniel G. Niven were balloted for, and it was declared unanimous in their favor.

The following resolution was offered and passed, viz:

Resolved, That it is expedient to form a Grand Council of Royal Master Masons and Select Masons for the State of New York and that the Th. Ill. Past Royal Master Thomas Lownds be requested to call a convention of all the present and past G. Royal Masters, Deputy G. Masters and Grand Wardens in this city in order to carry into effect the formation of a Grand Council.

Bros. Chapman, Oliver and Niven received the degree in due form.

Bro. Lansing's bill of three dollars including this evening, passed for payment.

No other business offering, Council closed.

Bros. Chapman, Oliver and Niven, paid each $5.00.

At a regular meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, held at St. John's Hall, January 20th, 1823.

Present: The Th. Ill. O. M. Lownds, G. M., and a number of brethren duly convened. Council opened in the R. M. degree.

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

The resolution proposed at the last regular meeting was read, and after being amended, passed unanimously in the following form, to wit:

Resolved, That the regular meetings of this Council shall be held on the 30th day of each calendar month, (Sundays excepted), but the Th. Ill. G. Royal Master shall have power to call extra meetings whenever he may deem it expedient, and the 2nd Article of the By-Laws is hereby repealed.

No other business offering, Council closed.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND COUNCIL

OF

ROYAL MASTER MASONS

OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK

From its organization, January 25, 1823, to its union with the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, June 6 and 7, 1860.

At a Convention of Past Officers of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons, held on the 25th day of January 5823, in pursuance of the following resolution, passed at a regular meeting of Columbian Council of Royal Master Masons on the 18th instant, to wit:

"*Resolved,* That it is expedient to form a Grand Council of Royal Master Masons and Select Masons for the State of New York, and the Th. Ill. Past Grand Royal Master Thomas Lownds be requested to call a convention of all the present and past Grand Royal Masters, Deputy Grand Royal Masters and Grand Wardens, to carry into effect the formation of a Grand Council."

The Th. Ill. Past Grd R. M. Thomas Lownds was appointed Chairman, and the Ill. Grd R. M. Oliver M. Lownds, Secretary.

The following resolution was then offered and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this convention deem it expedient to form a Grand Council of Royal Master Masons for the State of New York, and that they now proceed to an election of officers to govern the same until the 21st day of June, 5824.

The following persons were unanimously elected:

Thomas Lownds.....Most Ill. R. G. Master
Edward Higgins.....Ill. D. R. G. Master
Gerrit Morgan.....Ill. R. G. Warden
Louis Seymour.....Ill. Grand Marshal
Tobias W. Bedell.....Ill. Senior Grd M.
Hosea Dodge.....Ill. Junior Grd M.
Lucius Q. C. Bowles.....R. Gd Treasurer
Oliver M. Lownds.....R. Grd Recorder
William F. Pratt..... .....R. Grd Herald

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to draft a constitution for this Grand Council.

Most Ill. Thomas Lownds, Bros. Tobias W. Bedell and O. M. Lownds were appointed on said Committee.

Council adjourned.

At an adjourned meeting of the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons for the State of New York, held on the 1st February, 5823. Present:

The Most Ill. Thomas Lownds, G. R. M.
Ill. Edward Higgins, D. G. R M.
Ill. Gerrit Morgan, G. R. W.

and a number of brethren duly congregated.

The proceedings of the last meting were read and approved.

The Committee appointed to prepare the form of a Constitution for this Grand Council presented a draft of the same, which, on being amended, passed in the following form, to wit:

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL MASTER MASONS FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

ARTICLE I.

SECTION 1. There shall be a Grand Council of Royal Master Masons for the State of New York, who claim of right the government and superintendence of all assemblies of Royal Master Masons and Select Masons in the said State.

SEC. 2. This Grand Council shall consist of a most Illustrious Royal Grand Master, Illustrious Deputy Royal Grand Master, Illus- Royal Grand Warden, Royal Grand Marshal, Royal Senior Grand Marshal, Royal Junior Grand Marshal, Royal Grand Treasurer, Royal Grand Recorder, Royal Grand Herald and all past Grand Officers of this Grand Council, and all Royal Grand Masters, Deputy Royal Grand Masters, and Royal Wardens of subordinate Councils for the time being, and all past Royal Grand Masters and past Deputy Royal Grand Masters of such Councils, and the said enumerated officers, or their proxies, shall be the only members of this Council.

SEC. 3. This Grand Council shall be held in the City of New York on the first Wednesday in June in each year, during which session the election of Officers shall take place, but the Most Illustrious Royal Grand Master, or in his absence, the Illustrious Deputy Royal Grand Master shall have power to call special meetings, when they shall deem the same expedient.

SEC. 4. The Most Illustrious Royal Grand Master, the Illustrious Deputy Royal Grand Master or the Illustrious Royal Grand Warden shall, severally, have power during the recess of this Grand Council to grant letters of dispensation, on the petition of a constitutional number of persons, possessing the degrees under this jurisdiction, which said letters of dispensation shall remain in full force until the next session of the Grand Council, who may revoke or recall the same, or grant a warrant, as to them may seem proper —, provided always, that no letter of dispensation or warrant shall issue until the sum of ten dollars shall be paid by the persons applying for the same.

SEC. 5. No warrant or letter of dispensation shall issue except upon the petition of at least five persons, and the petitioners must be recommended by a Council of Royal Master Masons, or by the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons nearest to the place where the new Council is to be established.

ARTICLE II.

SECTION 1. Every subordinate Council ought to assemble at least quarterly, for business and improvement, and every Council shall consist of a Thrice Illustrious Royal Grand Master, Deputy Royal Grand Master, Grand Warden, Grand Marshal, Senior Marshal, Junior Marshal, Treasurer, Recorder, Herald, and as many members as may be found expedient.

SEC. 2. Every subordinate Council shall pay into the funds of this Grand Council the sum of twenty-five cents for each person admitted to membership in said Council, and the said sum shall be paid during the session of this Grand Council in June in each and every year.

SEC. 3. No subordinate Council shall confer the degrees under this jurisdiction upon any one who shall not have received in a regular manner the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master, Excellent Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch.

SEC. 4. Every Council shall have a warrant from the Grand Council, or a letter of dispensation from one of the first three Officers, and no Council that may hereafter be formed or opened shall be deemed regular without such warrant or dispensation, and all in-

tercourse and communication is hereby interdicted and forbidden, between any Council under this jurisdiction, or any member of the same, and any Council held without such warrant or their members, or any person introduced into such illegal assembly.

SEC. 5. The Officers and members of every Council under this jurisdiction, and every candidate upon his admission into the same shall take the following obligation. "I — do swear, that I will support the Constitution of the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons for the State of New York."

ARTICLE III.

Whenever it shall be deemed necessary to alter or amend this Constitution, the same shall be done in manner following, to wit: the proposed amendment or alteration to be presented in writing, and read at a regular meeting of this Council, the consideration of which shall lie over until the next regular meeting, when two-thirds of the members present assenting thereto, it shall become part of this Constitution

The following resolution was then adopted, which, for the term of three years, forms a part of this Constitution.

Resolved, That all Councils of Royal Master Masons, which shall have been in actual existence at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be entitled to warrants, on their applying for the same and paying the Grand Recorder his expenses for preparing them, and that the fourth section of the first Article of this Constitution shall not be considered as applying to such Councils, provided such application be made within three years.

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder be authorized to procure a seal, with a proper device, for this Grand Council, and to print 100 copies of the Constitution.

Grand Council closed.

At the annual meeting of the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons for the State of New York, held at St. John's Hall, of Monday, the 21st day of June, 5824. Present:

Edward Higgins, G. R. M., *pro tem.*
Gerrit Morgan, D. G. R. M., *pro tem.*
Lebbens Chapman, G. W., *pro tem.*

Grand Council opened in form.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following information was received from the M. Ill. Thomas Lownds, G. R. M.

"That evidence having been produced to his satisfaction of the existence of a Council of R. M. in the City of Hudson, at the time of the adoption of the Constitution of this Grand Council, and an application having been made to him on behalf of said Council for a warrant, he had considered them as coming within the meaning of the resolution passed on the first of February, 5823, and had allowed them a warrant by the name and style of "Hudson Council, No. 2," which warrant bears date on the seventh day of May, 5824, that the following brethren are the first officers of said Council:

Campbell Bushnell.....Th. Ill. G. R. M.
Charles Waldo.....D. Ill. G. R. M.
Charles Smith.....G. W.

"That an application has also been received from a number of brethren residing in County of Berkshire, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, praying for a warrant to hold a Council in the town of Sheffield, in said County; accompanying the application was a recommendation of the presiding Officers of Hampden Council in Springfield, Massachusetts; that under the peculiar circumstances of the case, he had deemed it expedient, with the advice of the Officers of the Grand Council, to allow a warrant to the petitioners. The Council is to be known by the name of 'Warren Council, No. 3.' The warrant bears date on the 16th day of June, 5824. The following brethren are the first Officers:

John Barney.....Th. Ill. G. R. M.
Edward F. Ensign.....D. G. R. M.
Elisha W. Cleveland.....G. W. M."

Whereupon it was resolved:

"That the acts of the M. Ill. G. R. M. and the Officers of this Grand Council during its recess be in all things ratified and confirmed."

This being the meeting prescribed by the Constitution for the choice of Officers, the Grand Council proceeded to an election, when the following brethren were unanimously elected for ensuing year:

Thomas Lownds.....M. Ill. G. R. M.
Edward Higgins.....Ill. D. G. R. M.
Gerrit Morgan.....Ill. Gd W.
Lewis Seymour.....Ill. Gd M.
William F. Pratt.....Ill. Senior M.
Campbell Bushnell.....Ill. Jun. M.
Lebbens Chapman.....Gd Treasurer
Oliver M. Lownds.....Gd Recorder
John Barney.....Gd Herald

Resolved, That the warrants issued by this Grand Council be in the following form, to wit:

"We, the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons for the State of New York, duly assembled in the City of New York, do, by these presents appoint our worthy brethren ———————— to be the first Thrice Illustrious Grand Royal Master, to be the first Deputy Grand Royal Master, —— Grand Warden, of a Council of Royal Master Masons, to be by virtue hereof constituted and held in ————, which shall be distinguished by the name of ———————— Council, No. ———, of Royal Master Masons, and the said Council is hereby invested with full power and authority to assemble on all lawful and proper occasions, to confer the several degrees of Royal Master Mason and Super Excellent Master Mason, and to exercise all the rights and privileges appertaining to them as a regularly constituted Council.

"Conforming in all their proceedings to the Constitution of the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons for the State of New York; otherwise, this warrant and the power hereby granted to cease and be of no further effect.

"Given under our hands and the seal of the said Grand Council, in the City of New York, on the ———— day of ———— A. L., 5824, of the Christian Era, 1824."

The Grand Recorder reported that he had procured a seal for this Grand Council, with a suitable device.

Council closed.

At a meeting of the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons held on————day of————November, 5824. Present:

Thomas Lownds, M. Ill. Gd. R. M.

Grand Council opened in form. An application was presented from a number of breturen residing in the County of Niagara, praying for a warrant to hold a Council of Royal Master Masons in the town of Lockport, County of Niagara, State of New York, by the style of Niagara Council, No. 4, and recommend the following brethren for the first Officers:

Harvey W. Campbell.....Ill. Grd. R. M.
Allison H. Millard.....D. Grd. R. M.
Hiram Gardner.....Grd. Warden.

Accompanying the petition was a recommendation under the seal of Ames Chapter, No. 88, whereupon,

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

Council closed.

At the annual meeting of the G. Council of R. M. Masons for the State of New York, held at St. John's Hall, June 21st, A. L. 5825. Present:

Edward Higgins, G. R. M. *pro tem.*
Gerrit Morgan, Dep., *pro tem.*
William F. Pratt,
H. Marsh,
L. Chapman.

The Grand Council was opened in form.

This being the constitutional time for electing officers, the Grand Council proceeded to that business, and the following were elected for the year ensuing, viz:

Comp. O. M. Lownds.....M. Ill. G. R. M.
Comp. Edward Higgins.....Dep. Ill. G. R. M.
Comp. Gerritt Morgan.....Ill. G. R. Warden.
Comp. Wm. F. Pratt.....Ill. G. R. Marshal.
Comp. Henry Marsh.....Senior G. R. M.
Comp. Campbell Bushnell.....J. G. R. M.
Comp. Lebbens Chapman.....G. R. Treasurer.
Comp. Tho. Slade.....G. R. Recorder.
Comp. John Barney.....G. R. Herald.
Comp. G. Lansing.....G. R. Sentinel.

Nothing further appearing to be acted upon, the Council was closed.

At an extra meeting of the Grand Council of R. M. Masons for the State of New York, held at St. John's Hall, October 14, 5825. Present:

Tho. Lownds, M. Ill. G. R. M.,

and a constitutional number of members, convened the G. Council.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form.

The followig petitions were read and the prayer of the petitioners granted, viz:

The Petition of John Warner, Warren P. Wing, Edward Raymore, and others, for a warrant to form and hold a Council of Royal and Select Masons in Greenwich Village, in the County of Hampshire and State of Massachusetts, by the name and style of Washington Council, No. 5.

Of John Duel, Frederick I. Curtiss, Epaphrochtus Taylor, and others, for a warrant to form and hold a Council of R. and Select Masons in the town of Northcast, in the County of Duchess and State of New York, by the name of La Fayette Council, No. 6.

The Council was then closed.

L. CHAPMAN, R., *pro tem.*

At the annual meeting of the Grand Council of S. and R. M. Masons, held at St. John's Hall, July 12th, 1826. Present:

Ill. Gerritt Morgan in the chair.

with Ill. Comps. L. Chapman, W F. Pratt, H. Marsh, Silas Butler, Junior, and G. Lansing.

The Grand Council was opened in form. The reading of the proceedings of the last meeting were dispensed with, the Ill. Comp. E. Higgins appearing, he took the chair. The Grand Council then proceeded to the Election of Officers for the ensuing year, when the following were duly chosen, viz:

Comp. Gerritt Morgan.....M. Ill. R. G. M.
Comp. Wm. F. Pratt... ...Dep. Ill. R. G. M.
Comp. Henry Marsh.....Ill. G. Warden.
Comp. Campbell Bushnell.....Ill. G. Marshal.
Comp. Ferdinand L. Wilsey....Ill. Senr. G. M.
Comp. R. B. Atterbury.....Ill. Junior G. M.
Comp. Lebbens Chapman....Ill. G. Treasurer.
Comp. Thomas Slade.....Ill. G. Recorder.
Comp. Silas Butler, Jr.....Ill. G. Herald.
Comp. Gerritt Lansing.....G. Sentinel.

On motion of Ill. Com. Pratt,

Resolved, That the next annual meeting for election of officers to be held on the Thursday next succeeding the first Wednesday in June, 1827. On motion,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to revise and report a Constitution for this Grand Council. Ill. Comps. Pratt, Chapman and Slade were appointed Grand Committee.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Council be given to the P. M. Ill. R. G. M.. and Deputy G. R. M, for their faithful attention to the duties of their offices the past year.

The Grand Council then adjourned during the will and pleasure of the M. Ill. R. G. M.

THOMAS SLADE, Recorder.

At a meeting of the Grand Council held at St. John's Hall, January 6th, 1827. Present:

G. Morgan, M. Ill. R. G. M.
H. Marsh, Ill. G. Warden.

R. Young, F. L. Wilsey, L. Chapman, R. B. Atterbury, Silas Butler, Junior, and G. Lansing.

The Grand Council was opened in form. The minutes of the proceedings of the last meeting were approved.

A petition was received from Jarvis F. Hanks, Daniel Worley, and others, at Cleveland, in the State of Ohio, for a warrant to form and hold a Council of S. and R. M. Masons. Motion being made and seconded, the question was taken and found unanimous in favor of granting the warrant. $12.00 was received with the above petition.

On motion, Comps. Chapman, Pratt and Slade were appointed a Committee to examine the records of the Grand Council, for the purpose of ascertaining the number of warrants granted, to whom, when and where, and under what circumstances, and also to correspond with all such Councils, and generally to obtain every information in relation to the state of Masonry under the title of Select and Royal Masters, with a view to form, if practicable, a General Grand Council of the United States.

Adjourned to the 13th instant.

January 13th, 1827.

The Grand Council met agreeably to adjournment. Present:

G. Morgan, M. Ill. G. R. M.

Wm. F. Pratt, R. B. Atterbury, Edward Higgins, Silas Butler, Jr., G. Lansing.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Constitution of the Grand Council was then read. On motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Sentinel, G. Lansing, be paid $12.00 for his services, including this meeting.

Companion Pratt gave notice that he should offer a resolution at the meeting to be held in June next, that the Constitution of this Grand Council be so amended as to make it obligatory on the subordinate Councils to charge the sum of $10.00 for conferring the degrees on any candidate. Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the G. Recorder be directed to communicate the above proposed amendment to the subordinate Councils, and request them to transmit their views thereon.

Resolved, That the fees of the G. Recorder for a warrant be $2.50, which shall be paid by those receiving the same.

Closed in form.

THOS. SLADE, G. Recorder.

At the annual meeting of the Grand Council of S. and R. M. Masons, held at St. John's Hall, June 21st, 1827. Present:

G. Morgan, M. Ill. G. R. M.
Wm. F. Pratt, Deputy.
H. Marsh, G. Warden.

L. Chapman, R. B. Atterbury, S. Lyon, Levi Nathan, F. L. Wilsey, Edward Higgins, G. Lansing.

The Grand Council was opened in form. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following named Companions were elected officers for the ensuing year, viz:

Wm. F. Pratt.....M. Ill. G. R. M.
Henry Marsh.....Deputy.
F. L. Wilsey.....Grand Warden.
Cyrus Curtiss.....G. Marshal.
R. B. Atterbury.....Sr. G. M.
S. Butler, Jr.....Jr. G. M.
L. Chapman.....G. Treasurer.
Thos. Slade.....G. Recorder.
Richard Ellis.....G. Herald.
G. Lansing.....G. Sentinel.

The M. Ill. G. R. M., G. Morgan, informed the Grand Council that he had received a communication from J. Cushman, in New Jersey, concerning his granting warrants for Councils of S. and R. M. Masons; said communication was then read, and on motion the following resolution was passed, viz:

"Ill. Companions Wm. F. Pratt, H. Marsh and Lebbens Chapman, be a committee to confer with James Cushman on the subject of his granting warrants for Councils of S. and R. M. Masons, and to answer his letter to G. Morgan on that subject, with a view to a suspension of such acts on his part, and report their proceedings thereon to this Grand Council as soon as practicable."

The following amendment was proposed to the Constitution of this Grand Council by Comp. Pratt, viz: Strike out the 21st of June, in the third section of the first Article, and insert "the Thursday next succeeding the first Wednesday in June for the annual meeting of this Grand Council." Also add an Article making it the duty of all Councils under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council to charge the sum of Ten dollars for conferring the degrees, authorized by the Constitution.

Closed in form.

THOS. SLADE, G. Recorder.

July 25th, 1827.

An extra meeting of the Grand Council of S. and R. M. Masons for the State of New York, was held at St. John's Hall. Present:

H. Marsh, M. Ill., *pro tem.*

with Ill. Companions F. L. Wilsey, S. Butler, Jr., F. W. Leeds, L. Chapman and G. Lansing.

The Grand Council was opened in form. A Communication was received from a Council of S. and Royal Master Masons in the City of Washington, in the District of Columbia, requesting to be recognized as a regular Council. The subject was then taken into consideration, and the following resolution unanimously passed, viz:

Resolved, That this Grand Council acknowledge the Council of S. and R. Masters in the City of Washington (D. C.), of which Wm. Lambert is G. R. M.. and that they be presented with a warrant, free expense. That Companions Wm. F. Pratt, L. Chapman, Silas Butler, Jr., and F. L. Wilsey, be a committee to communicate our proceedings to said Council.

Companions Marsh, Butler and Wilsey were appointed a Committee to settle with the Treasurer and Recorder, and procure the necessary books for their use.

Closed in form.

THOS. SLADE, G. Recorder.

At a regular meeting of the Grand Council of S. and R. M. Masons for the State of New York, at St. John's Hall, June 21st, 1828. Present:

Wm. F. Pratt, M. Ill. G. R. M.
Henry Marsh, Dep.

L. Chapman, F. W. Leeds, R. Ellis, Robert Young, Jer. Miller, G. Lansing.

The Grand Council was opened in form. The minutes of the proceedings of the last annual meeting, and an extra of the 25th July, were read and approved.

The following named Companions were elected officers for the ensuing year, viz:

Comp. Henry Marsh.....M. Ill. G. R. M.
Comp. Richard Ellis.....Dep.
Comp. F. W. Leeds..... ..G. R. Warden.
Comp. Cyrus Curtiss.....G. R. Marshal.
Comp. Silas Butler, Jr.....Sr. R. M.
Comp. Jer. Miller.....Jr. R. M.
Comp. Lebbens Chapman.....R. G. Treasurer.
Comp. Thos. Slade.....R. G. Recorder.
Comp. R. Young..... ...Herald.
Comp. G. Lansing.....Sentinel.

The resolution offered at the last annual meeting, to alter the time of the annual meetings of this Grand Council, passed in the affirmative. And the proposition to make it obligatory on subordinate Councils to charge Ten dollars for conferring the Degrees authorized by the Constitution, was laid over to the next annual meeting.

Resolved, That the G. Recorder be directed to transmit to the subordinate Councils a copy of the Constitution of this Grand Council, and request them to make returns with their dues.

Resolved, That the M. Ill. and Dep. Ill. be a committee to settle with the Recorder and Treasurer, and report at the next meeting.

Resolved, That the Recorder and Treasurer be an auditing committee, and authorized to pay all bills against this Grand Council.

Closed in form.

THOS. SLADE, G. Recorder.

At a meeting of the Grand Council of S. and R. M. Masons held June 15th, 1831. Present:

Richard Ellis, Dep. Ill. in the chair.

F. W. Leeds, S. Lyon, I. R. Bailey, G. Lansing.

The Grand Council was opened in form. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved.

The following named Companions were duly elected as officers for the ensuing year:

Richard Ellis.....M. Ill. G. R. M.
F. W. Leeds.....Dep. G. R. M.
I. R. Bailey..... .....Ill. G. R. Warden.
S. Lyon..... ....G. R. Marshal.
G. Lansing.....Sr. R. Marshal.
S. Spencer.... .....Jr. R. Marshal.
E. Higgins..... .....Treasurer.
Thos. Slade..... .....Recorder.
Robt. Young..... ..Sentinel.

The proposition for amending the Constitution, so as to make it obligatory on subordinate Councils to charge Ten dollars for conferring the degrees authorized by this Constitution was taken up, and on motion, it was so amended as to read "not less than five dollars."

Nothing further offering, closed.

THOS. SLADE, G. Recorder.

Wednesday, June 21st, 1837.

A meeting of the Grand Council of S. and R. M. Masons was held at the house of the M. Ill. G. R. Master, in Cherry Street. Present:

R. Ellis, M. Ill. G. R. M. in the chair.

D. West, G. Lansing, S. Lyon, I. R. Bailey, F. W. Leeds, Sam'l Maverick, Edward Higgins, I. S. Moore.

The Grand Council was then opened. The minutes of the meeting, 1831, were read and approved. The following named Companions were duly elected as officers for the ensuing year:

Richard Ellis.....M. Ill. G. R. M.
F. W. Leeds.....Deputy G. R. M.
I. R. Bailey.....Ill. G. R. Warden.
S. Lyon.....G. R. Marshal.
S. Maverick.....Sr. R. Marshal.
S. Spencer.....Jr. R. Marshal.
Edward Higgins..... .....Treasurer.
.....Recorder.
R. Young.....Sentinel.

Nothing further offering, closed.

F. W. LEEDS, Recorder, *pro tem.*

[There were no minutes present from 1831 to this date, the Recorder having promised to produce them, but did not.]

At a meeting of the Grand Council of S. and R. M. Masons held at Barnes' Buildings, No. 33 Canal Street, March 16th A. L. 5842. Present:

Richard Ellis, M. Ill. Grd. R. M. in the chair.
F. W. Leeds, Dep. G. R. M.
S. Lyon, G. R. W.
S. Maverick, Sr. R. M.
S. Spencer, Jr. R. M.

D. West, John Gassner, A. Chapple, Robt. Tavrell, R. Beach, A. B. Nones, I. L. Moore, Chas. Colgate, James Thorburn.

The Grand Council was opened in form, when the minutes of the last meetings were read and approved. On motion, duly made and seconded, the following were:

Resolved, That the present officers of the Grand Council continue to serve until the 21st June, 1842, the regular meeting for the election of officers. Carried unanimously.

Resolved, That this Grand Council be now organized, which was carried unanimously.

Resolved, That the words "and Super Excellent Master Mason," be inserted in the warrant of Columbian Council, No. 1, after the words, "Select Mason," and that the same power to confer the Super Excellent Master's degree be extended to all Councils who have received their warrants from this Grand Council, or may hereafter, which was carried unanimously.

Resolved, That Companion D. West, be appointed Grand Treasurer for the remainder of the term in place of Companion Edward Higgins, deceased.

Nothing further offering, the Grand Council closed.

S. SPENCER, G. Recorder, *pro tem.*

At a regular meeting of the Grand Council of the State of New York, held at No. 33 Canal Street, on Tuesday evening, June 21st, 1842. Present:

Thrice Ill. Richd. Ellis, R. G. M. in the chair.
F. W Leeds, Dep. R. G. M.
Sylvester Spencer, R. G. R., *pro tem.*
D. West, R. G. Treasurer.
James Thorburn, R. G. Tyler.

and other members present, when the Grand Council was opened in due and ancient form, when the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Resolved, That the annual election now take place, when the Grand Council proceeded to that duty, when the following members were duly elected:

Comp. Richard Ellis.....M. Ill. R. G. M.
Comp. F. W. Leeds.....Dep. R. G. M.
Comp. Jarid L. Moore.....R. G. Warden.
Comp. Samuel Maverick.....R. G. Marshal.
Comp. Anthony Chapple....R. Sr. G. Marshal.
Comp. Silas Lyon..... ..R. Jr. Gr. Marshal.
Comp. Daniel West..... ...R. G. Treasurer.
Comp. Sylvester Spencer.....R. G. Recorder.
Comp. Ransom Beach.....R. G. Herald.
Comp. James Thorburn.....R. G. Sentinel.

No further business appearing, the minutes of the meeting were read and approved, when the Grand Council was closed in due form.

SYLVESTER SPENCER, R. G. Recorder.

At an annual meeting of the Grand Council of the State of New York, held at No. 33 Canal Street, on Wednesday evening, June 21st, A. L. 5843. Present:

Comp. F. W. Leeds as M. R. G. Master.
Comp. Jarid L. Moore as Dep. R. G. Master.
Comp. Sam'l Maverick as R. G. Warden.
Comp. Anthony Chapple as R. G. Marshal.
Comp. Silas Lyon as R. G. Sr. Marshal.
Comp. Ransom Beach as R. G. Treasurer.
Comp. Sylvester Spencer as R. G. Recorder.
Comp. Robert Tyrell as R. G. Herald.
Comp. James Thorburn as R. G. Sentinel.

When the Grand Council was declared open, when the following Companions were unanimously elected officers for this Grand Council for the ensuing year:

Richard Ellis..... ..M. Ill. R. G. M.
F. W. Leeds.....Dep. R. G. M.
Jared L. Moore..... .....R. G. Warden.
Samuel Maverick.....R. G. Marshal.
Anthony Chapple..... ..R. G. Sr. Marshal.
Silas Lyon... ....R. Jr. G. Marshal.
Daniel West..... .....R. G. Treasurer.
Sylvester Spencer..... ....R. G. Recorder.
Ransom Beach..... .....R. G. Herald.
James Thorburn.....R. G. Sentinel.

Which were duly installed into their several stations.

No further business appearing, the minutes of the proceedings of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed; also the minutes of the proceedings of this meeting were read, and approved. The Grand Council was closed.

SYLVESTER SPENCER, Grand Recorder.

At an emergent meeting of the Grand Council of the State of New York, held at No. 33 Canal Street, on Wednesday, at 5 o'clock, P. M.; 3rd January, A. L. 5844. Present:

F. W. Leeds, Dep. Ill. R. G. M. as M. Ill. R.G. M.
Jared L. Moore as Deputy Ill. R. G. M.
Samuel Maverick as Ill. R. G. Warden.
Anthony Chapple as R. G. Marshal.
Silas Lyon as R. G. Sr. Marshal.
Ransom Beach as R. Jr. G. Marshal.
Daniel West as R. G. Treasurer.
Sylvester Spencer as R. G. Recorder.
Robert Tyrell as R. G. Herald.
James Thorburn as R. G. Sentinel.
John B. Costa.

Visitor, Alexander Kiparn, when the Grand Council was opened.

The M. Ill. Grand Master announced the death of our much beloved and esteemed M. Ill. R. Grand Master Richard Ellis, and offered the following Preamble and Resolution:

"*Whereas*, The Grand Architect of the Universe has, in his wisdom, removed from this transitory world our much esteemed Companion Richard Ellis, one with whom we have long been associated in the Fraternal Bond, one whose conduct through life has been that of an upright Mason, a firm friend and affectionate Parent; to us his loss cannot be easily replaced, although his death was not unexpected, he having nearly reached the time allotted to man, yet we deeply deplore this sorrowful event. To his family his death severe indeed, and with them we sincerely sympathize in their and our bereavement, as a bright light in Masonry he has left no superior.

We have this consolation in our sorrow, that his examples of a virtuous life and a true Mason are left for us to imitate; let us then, Companions, imitate his virtue, fidelity and zeal, bowing in

humble submission to the decree of the ever-living God, and so conform our actions to His holy precepts, that at the last day we may find our entrance into the Holy of Holies above, to be blessed forever. And may we be ever ready to meet the Grand leveler, when the mysterious summons is given to receive with joy and gratitude the announcement of his mission, "I am that I am, and I am hath sent me unto you."

Resolved, As a token of respect for the memory of the deceased, that the Hall of this Grand Council be closed in mourning until its next annual meeting.

Resolved, That the members of this Grand Council wear crepe on the left arm for the space of thirty days.

Resolved, That we attend the funeral of the deceased.

Resolved, That a copy of these Resolutions be transmitted to the afflicted family of the deceased."

No further business appearing, the Grand Council was then closed.

SYLVESTER SPENCER, Grand Recorder.

At a regular annual meeting of the Grand Council of the State of New York, held in the City of New York, at No. 33 Canal Street, June 21, 1844. Officers present:

Frederick W. Leeds as M. Ill. R. G. M.
Silas Lyons as Deputy Ill. R. G. M.
Samuel Maverick as Ill. R. G. Warden.
Anthony Chapple as R. G. Marshal.
Ransom Beach as R. G. Sr. Marshal.
Robert Tyrell as R. G. Jr. Marshal.
Jonathan Jarvis as R. G. Treasurer.
Sylvester Spencer as R. G. Recorder.
John B. Costa as R. G. Herald.
James Thorburn as R. G. Sentinel.

When the Grand Council was declared open, when the minutes of the last annual meeting, held on the 21st June, 1843, together with the minutes of the proceedings of the Emergent Meeting held on the third January, 1844, were read and confirmed, when it was

Resolved, That the election of officers now take place, when the following named Companions were unanimously elected:

Frederick W. Leeds.....M. Ill. R. G. Master.
Samuel Maverick.....Ill. Dep. R. G. Master.
Anthony Chapple.....Ill. R. G. Warden.
William Nexsen. .....R. G. Marshal.
Jonathan Jarvis.....R. G. Sr. Marshal.
Ransom Beach.....R. G. Jr. Marshal.
Daniel West.....R. G. Treasurer.
Sylvester Spencer.....R. G. Recorder.
Robert Tyrell.....R. G. Herald.
James Thorburn.....R. G. Sentinel.

When the officers elect were regularly installed into their several stations by F. W. Leeds, M. Ill. R. G. Master.

Resolved, That the Recorder be authorized to communicate with these Councils who have received their warrants for subordinate Councils from this Grand Council, to show cause why they do not make returns to this Grand Council, or show cause why their warrant should not be cancelled.

No further business appearing, the Grand Council was closed.

SYLVESTER SPENCER, R. G. Recorder.

At a regular and annual meeting of the Grand Council of R. M. M. for the State of New York, held at Warren Hall, June 21st, A. L. 5845. Present:

Comp. F. W. Leeds, M. Ill. R. G. M. in the chair.
A. Chapple, D. West, S. Lyon, S. Fisk, C. Watkins, R. Beach, R. Tyrell, J. Thorburn.

The Grand Council was opened in R. M. M. degree. The minutes of the last communication were read and confirmed, when it was

Resolved, That the election of officers for this Grand Council for the ensuing year now take place, and the following Companions were unanimously elected to fill the offices, viz:

Frederick W. Leeds.....Most Ill. R. G. Master.
Anthony Chapple.... .....Dep. Ill. R. G. M.
Sewall Fisk.....R. G. Warden.
Ransom Beach... .....R. G. Marshal.
Silas Lyon.....Sr. R. G. Marshal.
C. Watkins.....Jr. R. G. Marshal.
Daniel West.....R. G. Treasurer.
S. Spencer.....R. G. Recorder.
Wm. G. Park.....R. G. Herald.
Robt. Tyrell.....R. G. Sentinel.

The officers elect were then installed into their several stations by the Most Ill. R. G. Master, F. W. Leeds.

No further business appearing, the minutes of this meeting were read and approved, and the Grand Council closed.

S. SPENCER, R. G. Recorder.

At the annual meeting of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, held on Sunday, June 21st, A. L. 5846, at Warren Hall. Present:

Comp. Frederick W. Leeds, Most Ill. R. G. M. in the chair.

Comps. J. Jarvis, S. Fisk, R. Beach, C. Watkins, I. West, W. W. Nexsen, I. B. Costa; Visitors, C. Carpenter, W.Broadman.

The Grand Council opened in the R. M. degree. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. On motion, it was

Resolved, That Columbian Council No. 1, be directed hereafter to open and confer the Council degrees in the following order: first, the Super Excellent degree; second, the Royal Master's degree; and third, the Select Master's degree.

Resolved, That a dispensation be granted to Columbian Council, No. 1, to hold an Election at the next regular night of meeting, in consequence of a death in the family of the Thr. Ill. R. M., A. Chapple, which prevented his attendance at the Council on the regular meeting for their Election of Officers, and consequently there was not a quorum present.

The Most Ill. R. G. M. notified the Grand Council that since the last communication of this Grand Council four of our Companions had departed this life, viz:

Comp. S. Maverick,
Comp. A. H. Robertson,
Comp. Sylvester Spencer,
Comp. Silas Lyon.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed as a Committee on Foreign Correspondence. Ill. Companions Leeds, S. Fisk and D. West, were appointed that Committee.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following Report:—Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence have before them the proceedings of the Grand Council of Alabama and of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and recommend the following for your adoption.

Whereas, It appears by the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, they recommend that authority be given to subordinate Chapters in the different States, where no Grand Council exists, to confer the Royal and Select Master's degrees, which your Committee consider would be of vital injury to our Order and subversive of the ancient "Landmarks" of Masonry, and recommend that a correspondence be opened with the several Grand Councils in the different States, and to use all legal means to prevent so great an injury to our Order, and also that our objections be sent to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and the Grand Chapters of the several States. All of which is respectfully submitted.

F. W. Leeds,)
S. Fisk,) Committee on
D. West,) Foreign Correspondence.

On motion, the report was accepted and ordered to be carried into effect.

The Grand Council then went into an Election for Officers, when the following were unanimously elected Grand Officers for the ensuing year:

Fredk. W Leeds..... .Most Ill. R. G. M.
Anthony Chapple.....Ill. Dep. R. G. M.
Sewall Fisk.....Ill. R. G. Warden.
Ransom Beach.....Ill. R. G. Marshal.
Jonathan Jarvis.....Ill. R. Sr. G. Marshal.
Chas. Watkins.....Ill. R. Jr. G. Marshal.
Daniel West.....Ill. R. G. Treasurer.
Wm. W. Nexsen.....Ill. R. G. Recorder.
John B. Costa.....Ill. R. G. Herald.
——— .....Sentinel.

Standing Committee:—F. W. Leeds, A. Chapple, and S. Fisk.

Companions Jarvis Nexsen and Costa were then installed into their respective offices by the Most Ill. R. G. M., F. W. Leeds.

The foregoing minutes were read and approved, and the Grand Council closed.

WM. W. NEXSEN, R. G. Recorder.

At the annual meeting of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, held on the 21st June, A. L. 5847, at Howard House. Present:

Comp. F. W. Leeds, M. Ill. R. G. M. in the chair,

Companions Costa, Chapple, Carpenter, Watkins, Fisk, W. W. Nexsen, Beach, Jarvis West, Tyrell, Sheats.

The Grand Council opened in the R. M. degree. The minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.

The M. Ill. F. W. Leeds notified the Grand Council of the death during the past year of Companion I. L. Tasharia, and after a few suitable remarks, it was, on motion of Companion Fisk,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to send a letter of condolence to the family of Companion Tasharia. Companions Leeds, Chapple, and Watkins were appointed said Committee.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported, that in conformity with the resolution of the last meeting, they had written to the Grand Councils of the States of Alabama, Connecticut and Florida, and have as yet received no answer.

Grand Council then closed for a short space of time.

Grand Council re-opened and went into an Election for officers, when the following were unanimously elected Grand Officers for the ensuing year:

Fredk. W. Leeds.....M. Ill. R. G. Master.
Anthony Chapple.....Ill. Dep. R. G. Master.
Sewall Fisk.....Ill. R. G. Warden.
Ramson Beach.....Ill. R. G. Marshal.
Jon. Jarvis.....Ill. R. S. G. Marshal.
Chas. Watkins.....Ill. R. Jr. G. Marshal.
Daniel West.....Ill. R. G. Treasurer.
Wm. W. Nexsen.....Ill. R. G. Recorder.
Chas. W. Carpenter.....Ill. R. G. Herald.
S. Fisk.....R. G. Sentinel.

The foregoing minutes were read and approved.

The Grand Council closed.

WM. W. NEXSEN, Grand Recorder.

GRAND COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

July 29, A. L. 5847.

In consequence of there not being a quorum of Columbian Council, No. 1, this evening, the Grand Council opened in the R. M. M. degree.

M. Ill. G. R. M., F. W. Leeds in the chair,

J. Jarvis, R. Beach, W. C. Parks, D. West, S. Fisk, C. Carpenter, I. B. Costa.

The several degrees of Super Excellent R. M. and Select Masters were conferred on Companion Samuel Friedlander, of Mississippi Chapter, No. 8, Companions John N. Reed and Ebenezer B. Nichols, of Houston Chapter, No. 8, Texas, and each paid $5.00, amounting to $15.00, which was handed to Treasurer of Columbian Council, No. 1.

(Signed) S. FISK, G. R., *pro tem.*

November 29th, A. L. 5847.

The Grand Council was convened in the R. M. M. degree, Most Ill. R. G. M., F. W. Leeds in the chair. Companions J. Jarvis, D. West, C. Carpenter, I. B. Costa, C. Watkins, R. Beach, S. Fisk.

The Standing Committee of Columbian Council, No. 1, reported favorably on Companions Wm. H. Norris, Allan A. Burns and John Scott, which report was acted on and unanimously accepted.

R. M. M. closed and S. E. L. opened, and the degree of S. E. M. was conferred on the following: W. H. Norris, Allan A. Burns, John Scott and E. W. Nexsen.

Comp. W. W. Nexsen having come in, and there being now a sufficient number of members present of Columbian Council, No. 1, to transact their business, the Grand Council closed.

(Signed) S. FISK, G. R., *pro tem.*

January 31, A. L. 5848.

The Grand Council was convened in the R. M. M. degree.

Most Ill. R. G. M., F. W. Leeds in the chair,

J. Jarvis, D. West, A. Chapple, R. Beach, C. Watkins, C. Carpenter, S. Fisk.

The following Companions were proposed for Initiation and Membership in Columbian Council, No. 1: Companions Jordon Woolley and Elisha Edmondson, of Ancient Chapter, No. 1; C. L. Church, of Jerusalem Chapter, No. 8; —. Landers, of Phenix Chapter, No. 2. On motion, referred to the Standing Committee of Columbian Council, No. 1, for investigation.

The Most Ill. R. G. M. stated, that since the last communication of the Grand Council a Warrant had been granted to Companions Wm. D. Smith, John N. Reed, Ebenezer L. Nichols, and others, under the name of Houston Council, No. 10, to be held at Houston, Texas. On motion, the Grand Council immediately concurred in granting said warrant, after which the Grand Council closed.

(Signed) F. W. LEEDS, G. R., *pro tem.*

At a regular annual meeting of the Grand Council of R. M. M. of the State of New York, held at the Howard House, on Wednesday evening, June 21st, A. L. 5848. Present:

F. W. Leeds, M. Ill. R. G. M. in the chair,

R. Beach, A. Chapple, D. West, C. Watkins, C. W. Carpenter, W. W. Nexsen, I. B. Costa.

Minutes of the last annual meeting and the minutes of July 29th, '47, November 29th, '47, January 31st, '48, were read and approved.

The M. Ill. R. M. stated, that he had not as yet received the amount of the warrant of Houston Council, No. 10, Texas. Companion Recorder then read a letter from said Council, enclosing their dues, amounting to six dollars, with a list of their officers and members.

The M. Ill. announced that since the last annual meeting of this Grand Council, our worthy Companion James Thorburn had departed this life, when, after a few suitable and appropriate remarks from him, it was

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to send a letter of condolence to the widow of the deceased. Companions Leeds, West and Nexsen appointed said Committee. On motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Council now proceed to the election of Officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows:

Comp. Fredk. W. Leeds..M. Ill. R. G. Master.
Comp. Anthony Chapple.Ill. Dep. R. G. Master.
Comp. Jonathan Jarvis.....Ill. R. G. Warden.
Comp. Ramson Beach.....R. G. Marshal.
Comp. Chas. Watkins.....R. G. Sr. Marshal.
Comp. Chas. W. Carpenter..R. Jr. G. Marshal.
Comp. Daniel West.....R. G. Treasurer.
Comp. Wm. W. Nexsen.....R. G. Recorder.
Comp. Sewall Fisk..... .....R. G. Herald.
Same .....R. G. Sentinel.

After a few remarks from the M. Ill. and no further business offering, the Grand Council closed.

WM. W. NEXSEN, Grand Recorder.

At the annual meeting of the Grand Council of R. M. M. of the State of New York, held at the Howard House, on Thursday evening, the 21st, A. L. 5849. Present:

Comp. F. W. Leeds, M. Ill. R. G. M. in the chair.

Companions Jarvis Nexsen, Beach, Carpenter, Brown, Randall.

The Grand Council opened in R. M. degree. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Council adjourn until Friday evening, the 29th inst.

WM. W. NEXSEN, Grand Recorder.

The Grand Council met pursuant to adjournment on Friday evening, 29th June, 5849, and proceeded to the election of Officers for the ensuing year, when the following were duly elected:

Comp. Jonathan Jarvis....M. Ill. R. G. Master.
Comp. Chas. W. Carpenter...Ill. Dep. R. G. M.
Comp. Chas. Watkins.....Ill. R. G. Warden.
Comp. John Scott.....R. G. Marshal.
Comp. Ramson Beach.....R. Sr. G. Marshal.
Comp. Wm. H. Norris.....R. Jr. G. Marshal.
Comp. Daniel West.....R. G. Treasurer.
Comp. Wm. W. Nexsen.....R. G. Recorder.
Comp. Wm. Brown.....R. G. Herald.
Comp. Sewell Fisk.....R. G. Sentinel.

Nothing further offering, the Grand Council closed.

WM. W. NEXSEN, Grand Recorder.

A meeting of the Grand Council of the State of New York was held at Howard House, January 15th, A. L. 5850.

Most Ill. J. Jarvis,
Ill. C. W. Carpenter,
Ill. C. Watkins,
P. Ill. F. W. Leeds, Recorder, *pro tem.*

Opened in the R. M. M. degree. Ill. Companion Leeds then read a communication from the Grand H. P. R. R. Boyd, of the Grand Chapter of New York, as follows:

* * * * * * *

Whereupon a motion was made, that a Committee of three be appointed to answer that Communication, when the following were appointed that Committee: Most Ill. J. Jarvis, F. W. Leeds, and C. Carpenter.

The Committee then read their report, which was accepted.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Grand Council then closed.

F. W. LEEDS, G. Recorder, *pro tem.*

An emergent meeting of the Grand Council of R. M. of the State of New York was held at Free Masons' Hall, No. 600 Broadway, on Friday evening, January 14th, A. L. 5850. Present:

Most Ill. J. Jarvis,
Ill. F. W. Leeds,
C. Watkins, W. H. Norris, S. Fisk.

Opened in the R. M. Degree. The Most Ill. then directed the Grand Recorder to give notice that this Grand Council will hold their annual communication on Friday evening next, the 21st inst., at 7 o'clock precisely, for the purpose of holding an Election for Officers, and also to direct the Recorder of Columbian Council, No. 1, to notify the members of said Council to hold their meeting on same evening, time and place, for the election of officers for the ensuing year; and also to notify their Standing Committee to meet and prepare their report on the affairs of said Council at their next meeting.

Received from Companion Norris, $1.00, for dues to Columbian Council, No. 1.

The foregoing minutes were then read and approved, and the Grand Council closed.

FREDK. W. LEEDS, Grand Recorder, *pro tem.*

The annual communication of the Grand Council of R. M. for the State of New York was held at Free Masons' Hall, No. 600 Broadway, January 21st, A. L. 5850. Present:

Most Ill. J. Jarvis, G. R. M.
Past Most Ill. F. W. Leeds.
Ill. C. Watkins.
Ill. W. W. Nexsen.
Ill. C. W. Carpenter.
Ill. D. West.
Ill. W. H. Norris.
Ill. S. Fisk.

The Grand Council opened in the R. M. degree. The minutes of the last annual and other meetings were read and confirmed. On motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Council now proceed to the Election of Officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows:

Most Ill. Comp. Jonathan Jarvis.....G. R. M.
Comp. C. W. Carpenter..Dep. G. M.
Comp. C. Watkins.....R. G. W.
Comp. W W. Nexsen.R. G. Marshal.
Comp. W. H. Norris.....Sr. R. M.
Comp. R. Tyrell.....Jr. R. M.
Comp. D. West....R. G. Treasurer.
Comp. F. W. Leeds..R. G. Recorder.
Comp. R. Beach..... .....Herald.
Comp. W. Broadman.....Sentinel.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed, with power to have the report (which was read at a former meeting, a copy of which had beeen transmitted to the Grand Chapter of the State of New York) printed. Companions Leeds, Watkins and Nexsen were appointed that Committee. The foregoing minutes were then read and confirmed.

Nothing further offering, the Grand Council closed.

W. W. NEXSEN, Grand Recorder.

A regular meeting of the Grand Council of R. M. M. of the State of New York was held at Free Masons' Hall, June 21st, A. L. 5851. Present:

Most Ill. Jonathan Jarvis, R. G. M. in the chair.

The Grand Council opened in the R. M. degree. The minutes of the former meetings were read and confirmed.

This being the annual meeting for the election of Officers, the Grand Council went into Ballot for the same, when the following were duly elected as officers of this Grand Council for the ensuing year, viz:

Most Ill. Comp. Jonathan Jarvis.....R. G. M.
Comp. C. W. Carpenter..Dep. G. M.
Comp. Chas. Watkins...Ill. R. G. W.
Comp. Wm. W. Nexsen....R. G. M.
Comp. W. H. Norris....R. Sr. G. M.
R. Jr. G. M.
Comp. D. West. .....G. Treasurer.
Comp. F. W. Leeds....G. Recorder.
Herald.
Comp. Greenfield Pote.....Sentinel.

Standing Committee:—Comps. J. Jarvis, C. W. Carpenter, Chas. Watkins.

The newly elected officers were then installed into their respective offices, the foregoing minutes read and affirmed, and the Grand Council closed.

FREDK. W. LEEDS, Grand Recorder.

[Note:—This Grand Council having frequent occasion to assist in transacting the business of Columbian Council, No. 1, the minutes of their meeting necessarily are inserted with those of Columbian Council, No. 1].

Monday, June 21st, A. L. 5852.

A regular meeting of the Grand Council of R. M. M. of the State of New York, was held at No. 600 Broadway, for the transaction of such business as would come before it. Present:

Most Ill. Comp. J. Jarvis in the chair.

Comps. D. West, W. H. Norris, J. B. Willis, G. Pote, Chas. Watkins, F. W. Leeds, Rob. Roberts, M. A. Cohen.

The Grand Council opened in the R. M. degree. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed. The Grand Council then went into Ballot for Officers for the ensuing year, when the following were duly elected:

Comp. Jonathan Jarvis.....M. Ill. R. G. M.
Comp. Chas. Watkins.....Dep. G. M.
Comp. Wm. H. Norris.....R. G. Warden.
Comp. Robert Roberts.....Sr. G. R. Marshal.
Comp. John B. Willis.....R. G. Marshal.
Comp. Myer A. Cohen.....Jr. G. R. Marshal.
Comp. F. W. Leeds.....G. Recorder.
Comp. D. West.....G. Treasurer.
Comp. I. T. Brush.....G. Herald.
Comp. Greenfield Pote.....Sentinel.

Standing Committee:—J. Jarvis, Chas. Watkins, Wm. H. Norris.

The foregoing minutes were then read and confirmed, and it being a late hour, nothing further offering, the Grand Council closed.

FRED. W. LEEDS, Grand Recorder.

A regular annual meeting of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters for the State of New York, was held at the Council Room, No. 600 Broadway, June 21st, A. L. 5853. Present:

Most Ill. Jon. Jarvis in the chair,

Comps. Chas. Watkins, John B. Willis, F. W. Leeds, D. West, M. A. Cohen, R. Roberts, G. Pote.

The Grand Council opened in the R. M. M. degree. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

This being the annual meeting for Election of Officers, the Grand Council went into ballot, when the following were elected to Office for the ensuing year unanimously:

Jonathan Jarvis.....M. Ill. R. G. M.
Chas. Watkins.....Dep. G. M.
Wm. H. Norris.....R. G. Warden.
John B. Willis.....R. G. Marshal.
Robt. Roberts.....Sr. G. Marshal.
Myer A. Cohen.....Jr. G. Marshal.
Fredk. W. Leeds.....G. Recorder.
Daniel West.....R. G. Treasurer.
James T. Brusn.....G. Herald.
Greenfield Pote.....G. Sentinel.

Standing Committee:—J. Jarvis, C. Watkins, W. H. Norris.

The minutes were then read and approved. Nothing further offering, the Grand Council closed in Harmony.

FREDK. W. LEEDS, Grand Recorder.

The annual communication of the Grand Council of R. M. and Select Masters took place at the Council Room, No. 600 Broadway, June 22d, A. L. 5854.

In consequence of unavoidable causes, the Grand Council was not enabled to meet on the 21st June, A. L. 5854; the meeting was therefore postponed to this date. Present:

The Most Ill. R. G. M., Jonathan Jarvis in the chair,

Ill. Comps. C. Watkins, F. W. Leeds, W. H. Norris, J. B. Willis, R. Roberts, D. West, W. W. Nexsen, L. Burnham, G. Pote.

The Grand Council then opened in the R. M. M. degree, in due form. The minutes of the last regular communication were read and confirmed. Several communications from Comps. Fitzgerald and Goodwin, of Connecticut Grand Council, to the Grand Recorder, and his replies thereto, on the subject of the legality of the authority of the Grand Council of Connecticut, or their right to establish subordinate Councils. This being the annual meeting for the election of Grand Officers, the Companions then went into Ballot, when the following were elected for the ensuing year unanimously:

Ill. Comp. Jon. Jarvis.....M. Ill. R. G. M.
Ill. Comp. C. Watkins.....Deputy R. G. M.
Ill. Comp. Wm. H. Norris.....R. G. Warden.
Ill. Comp. J. B. Willis.....R. G. Marshal.
Ill. Comp. Robt. Roberts.....Sr. G. Marshal.
Ill. Comp. Myer A. Cohen.....Jr. G. Marshal.
Ill. Comp. Fredk. A. Leeds....R. G. Recorder.
Ill. Comp. Daniel West.....R. G. Treasurer.
Ill. Comp. Jas. T. Brush.....R. G. Herald.
Ill. Comp. Greenfield Pote.....G. Sentinel.

Standing Committee: — Ill. Comps. Jonathan Jarvis, Chas. Watkins, Wm. H. Norris.

Nothing further offering for the consideration of this Grand Council, the foregoing minutes were read and approved, and the Grand Council closed in Harmony.

By order of the Grand Council.

FREDK. W. LEEDS, Grand Recorder.

A regular meeting of the Grand Council of R. and S. Masters for the State of New York was held at the Free Masons' Hall, June 21st, A. L. 5855, but in consequence of the room being occupied, the meeting was adjourned to July 2d, A. L. 5855, when were present:

Most Ill. J. Jarvis, R. G. M.

F. W. Leeds, J. B. Willis, L. Burnham, Jas. Rodgers, G. Pote.

The Grand Council opened in the R. M. M. degree.

This being the meeting for the election of officers for the ensuing year, the members then went into ballot, and the following were unanimously declared elected:

Jonathan Jarvis.....Most Ill. R. G. M.
Chas. Watkins.....Dep. Ill. R. G. M.
Wm. H. Norris.....R. G. Warden.
J. B. Willis.....R. G. Marshal.
Robt. Roberts.....Sr. R. G. Marshal.
Leonard Burnham.....Jr. R. G Marshal.
Fredk. W. Leeds.....G. Recorder.
Daniel West.....G. Treasurer.
James Rodgers.....G. Herald.
Gideon Pote.....G. Sentinel.

Standing Committee:—Ill. Comp. J. Jarvis, C. Watkins, Wm. H. Norris.

Nothing further offering for the consideration of the Grand Council, they closed in Harmony.

FREDK. W. LEEDS, Grand Recorder.

A regular meeting of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters for the State of New York was held at the Pythagoros Hall, No. 199 Canal Street, June 21st, A. L. 5856.

The Grand Council opened in the R. M. degree, in conjunction with Columbian Council, No. 1.

This being the night for the election of the Grand Officers of the Grand Council for the ensuing year, the members then went into ballot, when the following were duly elected:

Jonathan Jarvis.....Most Ill. R. G. M.
Chas. Watkins.....Deputy R. G. M.
Wm. H. Norris.....R. G. Warden.
J. B. Willis.....R. G. Marshal.
Robt. Roberts .....Sr. R. G. Marshal.
Leonard Burnham .....Jr. R. G. Marshal.
Fred. W. Leeds.....R. G. Recorder.
Daniel West.....R. G. Treasurer.
James Rodgers.....R. G. Herald.
Gideon Pote.....R. G. Sentinel.

Standing Committee:—Ill. Comp. J. Jarvis, C. Watkins, Wm. L. Norris.

Nothing further offering, the Grand Council closed, after finishing some business of Columbian Council, No. 1, that was also closed.

J. B. WILLIS, R. G. Recorder, *pro tem.*

At an annual meeting of the Grand Council, held June 21st, A. L. 5857, at the Chinese Building, No. 541 Broadway, New York. Present:

The M. Ill. Jonathan Jarvis, R. G. M in the chair.

The minutes being called for were absent, when on motion the reading of the same be and is hereby dispensed with.

This being the regular night for Election of Officers, it was on motion,

Resolved, That we proceed to Election of Officers for the ensuing year. When on motion of Companion Surre, that the Thr. Ill. Comp. Jonathan Jarvis be elected to the office of Thr. Ill. R. G. M.

And the following Companions were nominated and elected to the several Offices, viz:

Comp. Jonathan Jarvis.....Thr. Ill. R. G. M.
Comp. Charles Watkins..Thr. Ill. Dep. R. G. M.
Comp. John B. Willis..Thr. Ill. R. G. Warden.

When, on motion of Thr. Ill. John B. Willis, that all the officers who were elected at the last election be elected to fill the same for the ensuing year, except those dead, when the following Companions were nominated, viz:

Thr. Ill. Comp. Robt. Roberts..Thr. Ill. R. G. Marshal.
Thr. Ill. Comp. Geo. Godfrey.....Sr. R. G. Marshal.
Thr. Ill. Comp. Thos. Forsyth.....Jr. R. G. Marshal.
Thr. Ill. Comp. Daniel West.....R. G. Treasurer.
Thr. Ill. Comp. William I. Surre.....R. G. Recorder.
Thr. Ill. Comp. Charles S. Swett... ...R. G. Herald.
Thr. Ill. Comp. Greenfield Pote.....R. G. Sentinel.

By the appointment of the Council.

When nothing further offering, the Thr. M. Ill. declared the Grand Council duly closed.

WILLIAM I. SURRE, R. G. Recorder.

At an annual meeting of the Grand Council of the State of New York, held at O'Keefe's Building, No. 594 Broadway, on Monday Evening, June 21st, 5858. Present:

Thr. M. Ill. Comp. Jon. Jarvis, R. G. M.
Thr. M. Ill. Comp. Daniel West, Dep. R. Marshal.
Thr. M. Ill. Comp. John B. Willis, R. Warden.
Thr. M. Ill. Comp. Leonard Burnham, R. Marshal.
Thr. M. Ill. Comp. Vincent W. Bate, R. Herald.
Thr. M. Ill. Comp. Wm. I. Surre, R. Recorder.
Thr. M. Ill. Comp. Greenfield Pote, R. Sentinel.

And a Constitutional number of Companions duly convened. The Thr. M. Ill. R. M. declared the Grand Council of the State of New York duly at labor, for the dispatch of such business as may come

before Grand Council, and also declared Columbian Council, No. 1, duly at labor in the Thr. Select Master's degree. When on motion, it was

Resolved, The Grand Council go into Election for Officers for the ensuing year. When, on motion,

Resolved, That the Thr. M. Ill. Jonathan Jarvis be and is hereby elected:

Jonathan Jarvis..Thrice M. Ill. Royal G. Master.

When, on motion,

Resolved, That all the Officers, who were elected at the last annual election of this Grand Council be and are hereby now elected to the same office as on the 21st June, 1857.

The following is the result of the Election, viz:

Comp. Jonathan Jarvis.....Thr. M. Ill. R. G. Master.
Comp. Charles Watkins...Thr. M. Ill. Dep. R. G. Marshal.
Comp. John B. Willis.....Thr. M. Ill. R. Gd. Warden.

For the Grand Council.

The following Companions were elected to fill the different offices: viz:

Comp. Robert Roberts.....Thr. M. Ill. R. G. Marshal.
Comp. Geo. Godfrey.....Thr. M. Ill. Sr. R. G. Marshal.
Comp. Thomas Forsyth....Thr. M. Ill. Jr. G. G. Marshal.
Comp. Daniel West.....Thr. M. Ill. R. G. Treasurer.
Comp. William I. Surre.....Thr. M. Ill. R. G. Recorder.
Comp. Charles J. Swett.....Thr. M. Ill. R. G. Herald.
Comp. Greenfield Pote.....Thr. M. Ill. R. G. Sentinel.

The Thrice M. Ill. R. G. Master then declared the Grand Council duly closed.

WILLIAM I. SURRE, G. R. Recorder.

At a regular meeting of the Grand Council of the State of New York held at Freemason's Hall, No. 594 Broadway, on Tuesday Evening, June 21st, A. L. 5859. Present:

Thrice M. Ill. Jonathan Jarvis.

Companion John B. Willis, G. R. Warden, and a large attendance of Companions.

The Thrice M. Ill. R. G. Master having taken his seat, assisted by Comps. Willis and Godfrey, the Comps. were directed to prepare their ballots for officers for the Grand Council for the ensuing year.

The Tellers reported the following Companions elected:

Comp. John B. Willis.....Thr. M. Ill. R. G. Master.
Comp. W. W. Nexsen....Thr. M. Ill. Dep. R. G. Master.
Comp. George Godfrey.....Thr. M. Ill. G. R. Warden.
Comp. Vincent W. Bate.....Thr. M. Ill. G. R. Marshal.
Comp. Thomas H. Forsyth..Thr. M. Ill. Sr. G. R. Marshal.
Comp. Allen A. Burns.....Thr. M. Ill. Jr. G. R. Marshal.
Comp. Daniel West.....Thr. M. Ill. G. R. Treasurer.
Comp. William I. Surre. ....Thr. M. Ill. G. R. Recorder.
Comp. Solomon W. Ashheim...Thr. M. Ill. G. R. Herald.
Comp. Greenfield Pote.....Thr. M. Ill. G. R. Sentinel.

The Installation of Officers was postponed. On motion,

Resolved, The Election of Officers be published in the *Herald* and *Dispatch* of next Saturday.

Nothing further offering, the G. Council was declared closed.

WM. I. SURRE, G. R. Recorder.

A Regular Meeting of the Grand Council of the State of New York was held at Freemason's Hall, on Tuesday Evening, July 12th, A. L. 5859. Present:

Thrice M. Ill. Jonathan Jarvis, as G. R. M.
Thrice M. Ill. John B. Willis, Dep. R. M.
Thrice M. Ill. George Godfrey, R. Warden.
Thrice M. Ill. William I. Surre, R. Recorder.
Thrice M. Ill. Greenfield Pote, R. Sentinel.

The Grand Council was opened in the R. M. degree for the transaction of Business and Installation of Officers.

The G. Council was then duly installed in Person and by Proxy by the Thrice Ill. Companion Jonathan Jarvis.

There being nothing presented here for transaction, the Grand Council was declared closed.

WM. I. SURRE, G. R. Recorder.

A regular Convocation of the Grand Council of the State of New York was held pursuant to notice at Freemason's Hall, 594 Broadway, on Sunday Evening, May 6th, A. L. 5860. Present:

Thrice M. Ill. Comp. John B. Willis.
Thrice M. Ill. Comp. Jonathan Jarvis.
Ill. Comp. George Godfrey.
Herald, Ill. Comp. Vincent W. Bate.
Recorder, Ill. Comp. Wm. I. Surre.
Sentinel, Greenfield Pote.

And a constitutional number of Companions convened. The Thr. M. Ill. declared the Grand Council at labor in the Select M. degree.

When Thrice M. Ill. Comp. J. B. Willis addressed the Grand Council at some length, with suitable remarks in reference to remarks communicated him by Comp. Vincent W. Bate, about forming a union with any other Council who may appoint a Committee for that purpose, when Companion Vincent W. Bate offered the following Resolution:

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to confer with any other bodies claiming to be Royal and Select Masters in the State, with a view to healing the alienation, which at present exist in this Grand Jurisdiction, and report at the earliest opportunity.

The Resolution was passed unanimously.

The Thrice M. Ill. appointed Companions Vincent W. Bate, Wm. I. Surre and George Godfrey.

Resolved, The said Committee be empowered to collect all necessary information as to the origin and legitimacy of this Grand Council.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to report to this Grand Council the True form of work to be worked in the subordinate Councils. On motion, the same be referred to the same Committee.

These minutes were then read and passed as correct. On motion,

Resolved, This Grand Council adjourns subject to the call of the Thrice M. Ill. Carried.

WILLIAM I. SURRE, G. Royal Recorder.

An Extra Meeting of the Grand Council R. M. M. of the State of New York, was held at No. 594 Broadway, on Tuesday Evening, 22nd May, 5860. Present:

Thrice M. Ill. Comp. John B. Willis, G. M.
Thrice M. Ill. Comp. Wm. W. Nexsen, Dep. G. M.
Thrice M. Ill. Comp. Jonathan Jarvis, Dep. W.
Companion V. W. Bate, C. Work.
Companion Leonard Burnham.
Companion S. W. Ashheim.
Companion Allen A. Burns.
Companion Wm I. Surre, G. Recorder.

The Grand Council was opened in ample form. The reading of the minutes of the last meeting were, on motion, dispensed with.

The Committee on Condition of Criptic Masonry reported as follows:

"The Committee to whom was referred the adjustment of differences in Cryptic Masonry in the jurisdiction of this Grand Council, beg leave respectfully to report, that they have had the subject under investigation and careful consideration. They find there exists within the jurisdiction of this Grand Council, a body of Royal and Select Masters styling themselves the "Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York," which, according to their printed proceedings, herewith shown, has been organized since 1854, and who, it appears, organized at that time, in as much as the then existing schism in the Grand Lodge would not permit of their members associating masonically with the members of this jurisdiction, and *vice versa*, did form, from three subordinate Councils, holding their several warrants from a Grand Council of Connecticut, a Grand Council for present purposes, and that said Grand Council was forthwith acknowledged and took her position among the Grand Councils of the United States, and that this so-called "Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York" at present numbers a large and respected body, consisting of R. A. M. in good standing in this State, with all of whom we are happily united as Companions R. A. M.

"That this so-called Grand Council, at the Annual Assembly in June, 1859, did appoint and empower a Committee to settle any existing difficulties in the way of union with any other body of Select Masters in that State.

"Seeing, therefore, that harmony exsts in all the grades of Masonry throughout the State, excepting in so far as Cryptic Masonry is concerned, and in view of the high and respectable position in which we are regarded by those grades, subordinate and inferior in

rank and knowledge; your Committee is unwilling that an imputation of unfraternal or discourteous feeling on the part of this Grand Council should be made by the Select Masons of any other so-called body, to derogate from the exalted principles we claim to work and exemplify in our exalted degrees, respectfully submit to this Grand Council, that in case any overtures or propositions of peace are offered by the other body, your Committee be empowered to settle any differences at present existing, and on a basis honorable to this ancient Body."

On motion, the report was accepted.

It was also moved and adopted, that the same Committee, with the additional names of Companions Jonathan Jarvis and A. A. Burns, be empowered to carry out such measures for the harmony of Select Masons in this jurisdiction as occasion may offer.

The Grand Council then closed.

WILLIAM I. SURRE, R. Recorder.

A regular Convocation of Columbian Grand Council of the State of New York was held at Masonic Temple, No. 594 Broadway, Monday evening, June 4th, 5860. Present:

M Ill. Comp. John B. Willis, G. M.
Ill. Comp. Wm. W. Nexsen, Deputy.
Ill. Comp. George Godfrey, R. Warden.
Ill. Comp. Vincent W. Bate, Herald.
Ill. Comp. Wm. I. Surre, R. Recorder.
Ill. Comp. Greenfield Pote, R. Sentinel.

and a large number of R. M. M. duly convened.

The reading of the minutes of the last convocation were, on motion, dispensed with.

The Report of the Committee on Union was then read as follows:

Articles of Union agreed upon between the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons of the State of New York and the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, respectively, to wit:

First: That henceforth there shall be but one Grand Council for the State of New York, to be known and distinguished by the style and title of the "Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York."

Second: That the Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers of the respective Grand Councils shall be considered Past Grand Officers of the Grand Council as united.

Third: That the Grand Council as united empowers all its subordinate Councils to confer the degree of Super-Excellent Master upon all regular Royal and Select Masters.

Fourth: That the Constitution and General Regulations now in force in the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons of the State of New York, and those of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, shall stand in force until amended by the Grand Council as united.

Fifth: That Columbian Council, No. 1, being the oldest Council in the State, shall retain its numerical rank in the list of subordinate Councils.

Sixth: That on the ratification of these Articles, the subordinate Councils shall be entitled to Equal Masonic Communion throughout the Jurisdiction.

Given under the hands of the respective Committees, this 28th day of May, Anno Depositionnos 2860, Anno 5860. Signed:

Vincent W. Bate,	Augustus Williams,
N. O. Benjamin,	Jonathan Jarvis,
George Godfrey,	Bradley Parker,
I. B. Yates Sommers,	Allen A. Burns,
William I. Surre,	Walter T. Marvin.

On motion,

Resolved, The report just read be received and adopted, which was carried.

On motion, this Grand Council now adjourn until Wednesday Evening, to meet at 8.30 P. M., at the Oddfellows' Hall, in conjunction with the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters.

WM. I. SURRE, Recorder.

PROCEEDINGS

Of the Convention for Organizing and Subsequent Transactions of the

Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York,

From 1854 to 1856 inclusive.

CONVENTION

For Organizing a Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters for the State of New York.

In pursuance of due notice, regularly issued, delegates from Washington, Pennell, and Oriental Councils of Royal and Select Masters, working by and under authority of warrants regularly granted by the Grand Council of the State of Connecticut, assembled in Convention, at the Council Room, No. 643 Broadway, in the City of New York, on the 27th day of May, A. Dep. 2854, for the purpose of organizing a Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters for the State of New York.

The Convention was called to order by Companion A. H. Bartlett, who stated the object of the meeting, when Thrice Illustrious Companion Asa Child, Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of Connecticut was unanimously elected President, and Companion John F. Robinson, elected Secretary.

The Convention being duly organized, Companion S. C. Swartz presented the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That delegates from Washington, Pennell, and Oriental Councils, now organize a Grand Council, to be denominated "The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York."

Resolved, That the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Council of the State of Connecticut are hereby adopted, as the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Council, as far as applicable, until otherwise directed.

Resolved, That the officers now to be elected, be installed, and that they hold their office till the Saturday next preceding St. John's Day (24th June, 1854), at which time there shall be a meeting of the Grand Council, to be composed of the first three officers of each of the several Councils in this State, and Grand Officers now chosen, at which meeting Grand Officers shall be elected to hold their office till the next annual meeting of this Grand Council.

The Convention proceeded, on motion, to the election, tellers being appointed and the ballots counted, the following Companions were declared elected:

GRAND OFFICERS.

Comp. M. J. Drummond, M. P. Grand Master.
Comp. Samuel C. Swartz, R. P. Deputy Grand Master.
Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers, P. Grand Ill. Master.
Comp. A. H. Bartlett, G. P. Con. of the Works.
Comp. H. F. L. Bunting, P. Grand Capt. of Guard.
Comp. E. W. Whipple, P. Grand Recorder.
Comp. Philip Pritchard, P. Grand Treasurer.
Comp. D. S. Sinclair, P. Grand Steward.
Comp. Sewall Fisk, P. Grand Sentinel.

M. P. Past Grand Master Asa Child installed the officers elect into their respective offices in due and ancient form, and Proclaimed the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters for the State of New York duly and regularly organized.

On motion, the Grand Council adjourned until Saturday evening, June 19th, at 8 o'clock.

JOHN F. ROBINSON, Grand Recorder, *pro tem.*

GRAND COUNCIL.

June 19th, 2854.

The Grand Council convened in accordance with the resolution of adjournment of May 27th, and was opened in Ample Form by the M. P. Grand Master. Present:

Comp. M. J. Drummond, M. P. Grand Master.
Comp. Samuel C. Swartz, R. P. Dep. Grand Master.
Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers, P. Grand Illus. Master.
Comp. Robert Macoy, as P. Gr. P. C. of the Works.
Comp. E. W. Whipple, as P. Grand Recorder.
Comp. Philip Pritchard, P. Grand Treasurer.
Comp. Sewall Fisk, P. Grand Sentinel.

And Representatives from Washington, Pennell and Oriental Councils.

The resolution, appointing this day for the election of officers to hold for one year, was read.

On motion, the Grand Council proceeded to ballot (Comps. Whipple and Tinsdale acting as tellers,) which resulted in the following choice of

GRAND OFFICERS.

Comp. M. J. Drummond, M. P. Grand Master.
Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers, R. P. Dep. Grand Master.
Comp. John J. Tinsdale, P. Grand Illustrious Master.
Comp. H. F. L. Bunting, P. Gr. P. C. of the Works.
Comp. Philip Pritchard, P. Grand Recorder.
Comp. D. S. Sinclair, P. Grand Treasurer.

The M. P. Grand Master then proceeded to install the officers elect into their respective offices, in due and ancient form.

The M. P. Grand Master announced the following as the appointed officers:

Comp. James H. Lane, Gr. Captain of the Guard.
Comp. W. W. Ward, Grand Steward.
Comp. J. F. G. Andrews, Grand Chaplain.
Comp. Sewall Fisk, Grand Sentinel.

On motion of Companion Sommers,

Resolved, That the Constitution of the Grand Council of Connecticut, now in force as the Constitution of this Grand Council, shall continue to remain in force and effect, as far as applicable to this jurisdiction, and that the first three officers be appointed a Committee to prepare a Constitution for this Grand Council; that when said Committee, with draft of Constitution, shall be ready to report, the M. P. Grand Master be requested to call an Emergent Assembly of the Grand Council, for the purpose of receiving said report, and draft of Constituton.

On motion of Companion Swartz:

Resolved, That the sum of Ten dollars be paid to Companion John F. Robinson, for services rendered as Grand Recorder.

The Grand Council suspended labor, to be called again at the pleasure of the M. P. Grand Master.

JOHN F. ROBINSON, Grand Recorder, *pro tem.*

GRAND COUNCIL.

An emergent Assembly, August 4th, 1854.

The Grand Council was convened this day, by order of the M. P. Grand Master, for the purpose of receiving and entertaining a petition from a constitutional number of Companions, praying for a warrant to establish a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the city of Brooklyn. Present:

Comp. M. J. Drummond, M. P. Grand Master.
Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers, R. P. Dep. Grand Master.
Comp. H. F. L. Bunting, P. Grand Illus. Master.
Comp. Philip Pritchard, P. Grand Recorder.
Comp. D. S. Sinclair, P. Grand Treasurer.
Comp. Sewall Fisk, P. Grand Sentinel.

And representatives from Washington, Pennell and Oriental Councils.

The M. P. Grand Master stated the object of the Assembly, and appointed Companions Bunting, Macoy and Sinclair, a Committee on Warrants.

Companions Sommers presented a petition from a constitutional number of Companions, praying for a warrant to establish a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the city of Brooklyn, to be styled, "Brooklyn Council, No. 4," which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Warrants, who subsequently presented the following report:

To the Grand Council:

The Committee on Warrants, to whom was referred the petition of a constitutional number of Companions, duly recommended by Washington Council, No. 1, praying for a Warrant to establish a Council in the city of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings, to be called "Brooklyn Council," respectfully report: That they have had the petition under consideration, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to James T. Brush, Thrice Illustrious Master, Bradley Parker, Right Illustrious Master, and William Bradley, Principal Conductor of the Works, and others, to hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters, in the city of Brooklyn, by the name of "Brooklyn Council, No. 4."

Respectfully submitted,

H. F. L. Bunting,
Robt. Macoy,
D. S. Sinclair.

The report was received, and the resolution adopted.

The Grand Council was then closed in Ample Form.

PHILIP PRITCHARD, Grand Recorder.

GRAND COUNCIL.

Emergent Meeting, February 4th, 1855.

An emergent meeting of the Grand Council of the State was convened by order of the M. P. Grand Master, to receive the report of the Committee on Constitution. Present:

M. P. Grand Master, M. J. Drummond, in the chair,

and a constitutional number of Grand Officers and Representatives.

The Committee on Constitution presented the following draft of Constitution, which was read by sections, and unaniomusly adopted.

CONSTITUTION AND REGULATIONS

of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

PREAMBLE.

We, the several Councils of Royal and Select Masters now hailing from, and constituting the jurisdiction of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, for the purpose of insuring good order; promoting harmony and brotherly love; advancing our Order; for diffusing Masonic instruction, and regulating our labors by one uniform standard, do ordain and declare the following Articles to be the Constitution of this Grand Council, subject to no alteration or amendment, unless altered or amended as hereinafter prescribed.

ARTICLE I.

SECTION 1. This Grand Council shall consist of a Most Puissant Grand Master, Deputy Puissant Grand Master, Grand Illustrious Master, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Recorder, Grand Treasurer, Grand Chaplain, Grand Steward, and Grand Sentinel; and the Thrice I. Grand Masters, D. I. G. Masters, and Principal Conductors of the Work, of the several Councils under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council, and the aforesaid officers, or their proxies, shall be the only members and voters in this Grand Council. Provided, however, that such Past Grand officers as may be present at any assembly of this Grand Council who shall have served a full term of one year in office, shall be entitled to one vote, respectively, but shall not have the right of appointing proxies, and provided, also, that all members and voters in this Grand Council must be contributing members of a Subordinate Council under its jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. The Grand Council shall have the sole government and superintendence of the several Councils in this State, and shall have power to assign the limits, prescribe the fees for admission, and settle controversies that may arise between them. They shall also have power to grant charters for constituting new Councils of Royal and Select Masters within the State of New York, or in any other State where there is no Grand Council.

SEC. 3. The Annual Assembly of the Grand Council shall be held on the Wednesday succeeding the first Tuesday in June, in the city of New York; but a special assembly may be called whenever either or all the first four Grand Officers may deem it necessary; and also when it may be required by a majority of the Councils in this State, provided such requisition be made in writing to one of the first four of the Grand Officers.

SEC. 4. At the Annual Assembly, the Grand Officers shall be chosen by ballot, the Companion having a majority of all the votes cast to be declared elected, and shall hold office till their successors shall have been duly elected and installed.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the Most Puissant Grand Master, as soon after his installation as convenient, to appoint a committee of three, to be called the Finance Committee, whose duty it shall be to superintend the financial concerns of the Grand Council; to audit all bills against it; certify them by their signatures, and report, when required by the Grand Council.

SEC. 6. The M. P. Grand Master, or his Deputy, shall have power, during the recess of the Grand Council, to grant Letters of Dispensation, under their respective signatures and private seals to a competent number of petitioners, duly qualified and recommended by the Council nearest the place where the new Council is proposed to be located, empowering them to open and hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters, for a specified time, not extending beyond the next assembling of the Grand Council: Provided, that the same fees as are required for a charter be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Recorder; and in all cases where such dispensation is granted, the officer granting the same shall make report thereof at the next assembly of the Grand Council; and the Grand Council may continue or recall such dispensation, or grant the petitioners a charter.

SEC. 7. No dispensation or charter for the institution of a new Council of Royal and Select Masters, shall be granted, except upon the petition of nine regular Royal and Select Masters, properly avouched for and recommended; nor for a less sum than Twenty-five dollars.

SEC. 8. There shall not be a greater number of Councils established in the State than there are of Royal Arch Chapters, nor more than one Council within the jurisdiction of each Chapter.

ARTICLE II.

REGULATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS.

SECTION 1. A Council of Royal and Select Masters shall consist of a Thrice Illustrious Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Principal Conductor of the Work, Captain of the Guard, Recorder, Treasurer, Grand Steward and Sentinel, and as many members as may be found convenient for working to advantage and ought to assemble for work at least once in three months.

SEC. 2. No Council of Royal and Select Masters in this State shall be considered legal, unless they have a charter from the Grand Council, or a dispensation from one of the Grand Officers; and Masonic communication is hereby forbidden between any Council under this jurisdiction, or any member thereof, and any Council or assemblage that may be so illegally established without such charter of dispensation, or any of their members, or any person advanced in such illegal Council.

SEC. 3. In every Council of Royal and Select Masters, instituted or held by virtue of this Constitution, all questions (except upon the admission of candidates), shall be decided by a majority of votes; and in case of an equal division, the presiding officer shall give the casting vote.

SEC. 4. The officers shall be chosen annually, by ballot, without nomination, at the first regular meeting in December, and a majority of the members present shall be necessary to elect, and the officers shall remain in office till their successors are duly elected and installed.

SEC. 5. Every Council of Royal and Select Masters in this State shall pay into the hands of the Grand Recorder, on or before the first day of the Annual Assembly, the sum of fifty cents for every Companion advanced to the degree of Select Master, and twenty-five cents annual dues for each member in good standing; and any Council neglecting or refusing to make returns and pay dues for more than one Annual Assembly, shall be punished by the forfeiture of their warrants, and only restored by paying all back dues, and offering sufficient apology for violation of good rules. Every member of a Subordinate Council, who shall refuse or neglect to pay his dues for the term of one year, shall be deemed an unwholesome member, and be punished by suspension or expulsion, as a majority of the members may deem just.

SEC. 6. It is the duty of every Council to see that its representatives are present at an early period of the Annual Assembly, and also to provide for the prompt payment of its annual dues; and it is hereby expressly declared that no representative shall be entitled to vote until such dues are paid, unless such excuse be rendered as shall be satisfactory to the majority of the members present.

SEC. 7. No Council under this jurisdiction shall confer the degrees of Grand Select Masters for a less sum than five dollars, such fees to be paid before the admission of the candidate.

SEC. 8. The Thrice Illustrious Grand Master of every Council has it in special charge, as appertaining to his office, duty and

dignity, to see that the By-Laws of his Council, as well as the Constitution of the Grand Council, and General Regulation of Royal and Select Masters, are duly observed and obeyed; that all the other officers of his Council perform the duties of their respective stations, and are examples of diligence and industry for their Companions; that true and exact records of the proceedings of the Council be kept by the Recorder; that the Treasurer keep and render just and exact accounts of all the moneys belonging to the Council; that regular returns be made by the Recorder to the Grand Council, of all admissions of candidates or members, and that the annual dues to the Grand Council be regularly and punctually paid. He has the special care and charge of the Charter or Dispensation of his Council; he has the right to call his Council at pleasure, upon any emergency, and he is to fill the chair when present. It is likewise his duty, together with the Deputy Illustrious and Principal Conductor, to attend the assemblies of the Grand Councils, either in person or by proxy, when duly summoned by the Grand Recorder.

SEC. 9. It is the duty of every Subordinate Council to furnish each Companion with a Certificate of Membership, immediately after his reception, the cost of which shall be included in the initiation fee.

AMENDMENTS.

This Grand Council is competent at any time to alter or amend this Constitution, on the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present at an Annual Assembly, provided the proposed alteration shall have been submitted in writing at one Assembly, and laid over till the next for consideration, unless such proposition should be unanimously concurred in; and in that case it may be adopted at once.

There being no further business before the Body, the Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

J. T. BRUSH, Grand Recorder, *pro tem.*

GRAND COUNCIL—ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, convened in Annual Assembly in the city of New York, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, on Wednesday, June 4th, A. D. 1855, A. Dep. 2855. Present:

Comp. M. J. Drummond, M. P. Grand Master.
Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers, R. P. Dep. Grand Master.
Comp. H. F. L. Bunting, as P. Grand Illus. Master.
Comp. N. O. Benjamin, as P. G. P. C. of the Works.
Comp. Philip Pritchard, P. Grand Recorder.
Comp. D. S. Sinclair, P. Grand Treasurer.
Comp. James T. Brush, P. Gr. Capt. of the Guard.
Comp. Aug. Swan, as P. Grand Chaplain.
Comp. George Dowding, P. Grand Sentinel.

And Representatives from Washington, Oriental and Brooklyn Councils.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form by the M. P. Grand Master.

The minutes of Emergent Assemblies of August 4th, 1854, and February 4th, 1855, were read and approved.

The M. P. Grand Master presented his annual address, which was, on motion of Companion Bunting, ordered to be spread at length on the minutes:—

Companions:—We have abundant cause to be thankful to the great Architect of the Universe for the manifold blessings we have been permitted to enjoy for the last year. While we return thanks for the past, let us, with that reverential awe that is due to our great Creator, implore him to extend His divine favor to the future. We have ample reasons to congratulate each other on our prosperity, for the peace and harmony that reigns within the walls of our sanctuary. While enjoying these inestimable privileges, let this important fact be in remembrance, a continuance of these blessings requires ceaseless vigilance on the portal of our passions, that they may ever be kept in due restraint and a firm determination to preserve inviolate the Ancient Landmarks of the Order. The trowel has been selected as a peculiar symbolical tool for the use of those Companions who have distinguished themselves by their zeal, skill and fidelity. Let it be your care to give it constant employment, that no rust may dim its surface. By its aid you may be enabled to fulfill those important duties you have voluntarily assumed and impart a portion of your skill to the honored Companions who may hereafter be found worthy to enter our sanctuary.

On the fifth day of May, 1854, Washington, Pennell and Oriental Councils, who had received Warrants, and working under the authority of the Grand Council of Connecticut, having now the constitutional number to form a Grand Body, a convention was called, and after due deliberation, organized themselves into a Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of the State of New York, claiming the right of jurisdiction over all Councils of Royal and Select Masons in the State, according to ancient Masonic usage. On the election of officers, I was elected to preside over the body, under the title of Most Puissant Grand Master, and installed by a P. G. officer of the Grand Council of Connecticut. As the R. A. Chapters have previously been accustomed to confer these degrees on Companions in their own bodies, and in my opinion, without legitimate authority, I addressed letters to several of our best informed Masons in and out of the State, drawing their attention to the necessity of having recognized authority to form Councils and confer the degrees in a regular manner. This measure, I am happy to state, had its influence in assisting to bring the question before the General Grand Chapter, who formally disavowed any or all authority that it was supposed it might heretofore have possessed over these degrees.

In June last, I addressed a letter to John L. Lewis, the M. E. G. H. Priest of our State, notifying him, in my official capacity, of our organization; drawing his attention to the action of the G. G. Chapter, and requesting him to notify the R. A. Chapters of this State, that having complied with the recommendation of the G. G. Body, we should henceforth claim jurisdiction over all Councils of Select Masons in this State. (A copy of my letter will be found in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter for 1855.) That amiable and intelligent Mason extended his cordial congratulations for our success, but declined taking any action till the pleasure of the Grand Chapter should be known.

At the Annual Convocation of the Royal Arch Masons, at Albany, the G. H. P., in his address, directed the attention of the Grand Chapter to the communication, but no action was taken thereon. Finding considerable variation in the work, as practiced East, South and West, I devoted considerable time and attention to form a system of work for the future, but it will be an impossibility to carry out a uniform mode of work throughout the United States, unless a general convention of Representatives of Councils should take place. I would, therefore, recommend the necessary steps be taken to form a general Grand Body, and others be invited to assist us in so desirable a step for the future; and as the General Grand Chapter and Encampment meet at Hartford, in September, 1856, it appears to me no time or place would answer our purpose better.

From official proceedings of the Grand Encampments of Ohio and Connecticut, I have learned, "that all candidates for the Encampment Order should first receive the degrees of Royal and Select Master." This appears to me eminently right and proper, for I know of no good and sufficient reason while the Encampment branch is acknowledged as part and portion of the York rite, the Royal and the Select Mason should be placed outside. I would, therefore, recommend to our Companions, who have to attend the Encampment in their official capacity as officers to that eminent Body, to take the necessary steps to produce a similar result as in Ohio and Connecticut. I would also recommend, the appointment of a Grand Lecturer, to assist the Grand or D. G. Master in instituting Subordinate Councils, and giving a system of work, that will insure uniformity; he could, also, attend such Councils as might require his services—the compensation to be borne by such Councils, and to be such as may be mutually agreed on.

Brooklyn Council, at Brooklyn, and Minnesota, at St. Paul, having received their Warrants, are, I am happy to state, prospering. I have, also, granted a Dispensation to Elmira, and from the well-known zeal and skill of the Companions, I auger the most fruitful harvest.

In conclusion, if my labors in the cause have been arduous and unremitting, they have also yielded me many hours of retrospective happiness; and to each and all who have so ably and zealously supported me during my term of office, I leave them with the deepest emotions of a grateful heart, earnestly praying that the Giver of all good gifts will shower on their heads His choicest blessings.

M. J. DRUMMOND.

The M. P. Grand Master then appointed the following Committees:

On Uniformity of Work:—Comps. Brush, Benjamin and Simons.

On Warrants and Dispensations:—Comps. Sommers, Bunting and Swan.

On Recognition of Degrees:—Comps. Edwards, Simons and Macoy.

On Finance:—Comps. Bunting, Benjamin and Edwards.

On Foreign Correspondence:—Comps. Simons, Macoy and Sommers.

Comp. Sommers, from the Committee on Warrants, reported in favor of granting a Warrant to Comps. Thomas C. Edwards, James S. French, Squire Newton and others, to establish a Council at Elmira, Chemung Co., to be known as "Excelsior Council, No. 6", which was granted.

On motion, the Grand Council proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, (Comps. Benjamin and Bunting acting as tellers). The ballots being counted, the following Companions were declared elected:

GRAND OFFICERS.

Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers, M. P. Grand Master.
Comp. H. F. L. Bunting..R. P. Dep. Gr. Master.
Comp. John J. Tindale..R. P. Grand Ill. Master.
Comp. N. O. Benjamin.R.P.G.P.C. of the Works.
Comp. Robert Macoy....R. P. Grand Recorder.
Comp. D. S. Sinclair....R. P. Grand Treasurer.
Comp. Thos. C. Edwards.R.P.G.C. of the Guard.
Comp. John W. Simons..R. P. Grand Marshal.
Comp. Philip Pritchard...R. P. Grand Chaplain.
Comp. Bradley Parker....R. P. Grand Steward.
Comp. George Dowding..R. P. Grand Sentinel.

The Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer presented their annual reports, which were on motion, referred to the Finance Committee.

Companion Drummond presented a bill of $68 for regalia, which was referred (with power) to the Finance Committee.

On motion, the Committee on Recognition of Degrees were ordered to prepare a suitable address, to be laid before the M. E. Grand Chapter of the State, informing that Body of the organization of this Grand Council, which was, on motion, laid on the table.

An invitation was received from a Committee of Arrangements at Bridgeport, to attend a Masonic celebration at that place, on the 24th inst., which was accepted.

The Committee on Work reported in favor of the appointment of a Grand Lecturer. The report was, on motion, received and the recommendation adopted.

Companion Brush, from the Committee on Uniformity of Work reported that he had prepared a Manual for the use of the Subordinate Councils, which was, on motion, referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Companions Benjamin, Macoy and Simons.

M. P. Grand Master M. J. Drummond installed the Grand Officers elect, into their respective offices, in due and ancient form.

On motion, the Grand Recorder was empowered to procure the necessary books, etc., appertaining to his office.

On motion of Companion Sommers:

Resolved, That the first four Grand Officers be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to draft an amended Constitution for this Grand Council, and that on or before the first day of October next, the said Committee cause copies of the amended Constitution as proposed, to be served upon the Recorders of the Subordinate Councils under this jurisdiction, in good and regular standing; that the presiding officers of the several Councils, so receiving copies of the said amended Constitution, as proposed, shall, at the regular meeting of their respective Councils next ensuing its receipt, as aforesaid, cause the said amended Constitution as proposed, to be read in open Council, and a vote to be taken upon its adoption or rejection as a whole, and that the said presiding officers of the said Subordinate Councils shall immediately after such vote has been taken in their respective Councils, cause official notice to be served upon the R. P. Grand Recorder of the Grand Council, notifying him as to the result of such vote. That if a majority of said Subordinate Councils vote in favor of the adoption of said amended Constitution as proposed, then from and after the first day of December, 1855, the said amended Constitution, as proposed, shall become the Constitution of this Grand Council. That if the majority of said Subordinate Councils vote in favor of the rejection of said amended Constitution, as proposed, it shall lie upon the table until the further action of this Grand Body. That the Grand Recorder shall immediately after receiving the votes of the majority of the said Subordinate Councils, inform the M. P. Grand Master as to the result thereof, who shall cause the necessary notices to be served upon the proper officers of the said Subordinate Councils, and also upon the Grand Officers of this Grand Council. That all of the Subordinate Councils who shall not be heard from on the subject of the adoption or rejection of the said amended Constitution, as proposed, as aforesaid, on or before the tenth day of November next, ensuing, shall be deemed to have reported in favor of its adoption, as aforesaid, and that the Committee hereby appointed to draft and prepare an amended Constitution, may, from time to time, make such additions to their number, from among the Grand Officers of this Body, as they may deem expedient and proper. On motion,

Resolved, That two hundred and fifty copies of the proceedings of this Grand Council, at its Annual Assembly, be printed.

The minutes were read and approved.

There being no further business before the body, the Grand Council was closed in due and ancient form.

PHILIP PRITCHARD, Grand Recorder.

GRAND COUNCIL—SPECIAL ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, August 9th, 2855. Present:

Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers. M. P. Grand Master.
Comp. H. F. L. Bunting ....R. P. Dep. Grd. M.
Comp. John J. Tindale.....R. P. Illus. Master.
Comp. N. O. Benjamin. R. P. G. C. of the Works.
Comp. Robert Macoy.....R. P. Grd. Recorder.
Comp. John W. Simons.....R. P. Grd. Marshal.
M. P., M. J. Drummond. R. P. Past Grd. Master.
Geo. Dowding.....P. Grand Sentinel.

And Representatives from Washington and Oriental Councils.

The M. P. Grand Master stated the object of the meeting was to appoint a Committee to procure from the late Grand Recorder, the books and other property in his hands belonging to the Grand Council; to take into consideration the appointment of a Grand Lecturer; to consider the propriety of appointing of a Committee on Foreign Correspondence; the appointment of a Committee on Jewels; and to consider such other subjects as might be deemed of value and interest to the Grand Council and the Order generally.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form. On motion, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee of one be appointed to wait upon Companion Philip Pritchard, late Grand Recorder of this Grand Council, and procure from him the books, moneys, and other property in his hands, belonging to this Grand Council.

Whereupon the M. P. Grand Master appointed Companion David Wagstaff said Committee. On motion of Companion J. W. Simons,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to address a circular-letter to the various Chapters of the State, setting forth the existence and powers of this Grand Council, said circular to be authenticated by the officers of the Council, which was adopted, and

Companions J. W. Simons, N. O. Benjamin and M. J. Drummond appointed the Committee. On motion of Companion M. J. Drummond,

Resolved, That a Standing Committee on Foreign Correspondence be appointed.

Whereupon Companions Simons, Macoy and Benjamin were appointed such Committee. On motion of Companion Drummond,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to report the correct style of jewels for Grand and Subordinate Councils of Royal and Select Masters.

Companions Drummond, Benjamin and Simons were appointed such Committee. On motion,

Resolved, That a Grand Lecturer be appointed, who shall be and hereby is, empowered to impart the Lectures to the Subordinate Councils and Companions in this State, the expenses of said Grand Lecturer to be defrayed by the parties requiring his services.

The M. P. Grand Master appointed Companion M. J. Drummond Grand Lecturer.

On motion, it was voted, that the Committees be requested to report, as far as practicable, at the next meeting.

On motion, the Grand Council adjourned, to meet on Thursday, August 23rd, at 8 o'clock, P. M.

ROBERT MACOY, Grand Recorder.

GRAND COUNCIL—SPECIAL ASSEMBLY.

New York, August 23rd, 2855. Present.

Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers. M. P. Grand Master.
Comp. M. J. Drummond. M. P. Past Grd. Master.
Comp. N. O. Benjamin, R.P.G.P.C. of the Work.
Comp. John W. Simons. R. P. Grd. Recorder, *p. t.*
Comp. Philip Pritchard. . R. P. Grand Chaplain.

And a number of other Companions.

The Committee appointed to receive from Past Grand Recorder, the books, etc., in his hands, presented the following report, viz:

New York, August 23rd, 2855.

To the Grand Council of New York:

Your Committee appointed to receive from Companion Philip Pritchard, sundry books, vouchers and moneys remaining in his hands, the property of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, hereby report: That the said duty has been performed, and herewith you will receive the same. Amount of moneys, $34.69; and for full particulars you are referred to the report rendered by Companion Philip Pritchard.

DAVID WAGSTAFF, Committee.

On motion, the report was received and Committee discharged.

Committee on Address to the several Chapters reported progress.

Committee on Jewels reported progress. On motion,

Resolved, That when the Grand Council adjourns, it adjourn to meet at the call of the M. P. Grand Master.

On motion, the case of Pennell Council, No. 3, was referred to the M. P. Grand Master, with power.

On motion, Companions Drummond, Simons and Benjamin were appointed a Committee, with power to fix the remuneration to P. G. R. Pritchard, for services rendered.

The Grand Council was then closed.

JOHN W. SIMONS, Grand Recorder, *pro tem.*

GRAND COUNCIL—ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York convened in Annual Assembly, in the city of New York, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, on Monday, June 2nd, A. D. 1856, A. Dep. 2856. Present:

Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers.....M. P. Grand Master.
Comp. H. F. L. Bunting.....R. P. Dep. Grand Master.
Comp. D. W. Fenton, as.....R. P. Grand Ill. Master.
Comp. N. O. Benjamin.....R. P. G. P. C. of the Works.
Comp. Robert Macoy.....R. P. Grand Recorder.
Comp. D. S. Sinclair.....R. P. Grand Treasurer.
Comp. Thos. C. Edwards....R. P. Grand Capt. of the G.
Comp. Jas. T. Brush, as.....R. P. Grand Chaplain.
Comp. John W. Simons.....R. P. Grand Marshal.
Comp. David Wagstaff, as.....P. Grand Steward.
Comp. George Dowding... .....P. Grand Sentinel.
Comp. M. J. Drummond..M. P. P. G. M. and G. Lecturer.

And Representatives from the following Subordinate Councils, viz:

Washington, No. 1; Oriental, No. 3; Brooklyn, No. 4; Excelsior, No. 6; Adelphic, U. D.; Genesee, U. D.; Eureka, U. D.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form by the M. P. Grand Master. By Companion N. O. Benjamin:

Resolved, That all Companion Select Masters in good standing in the Order be invited to take seats as visitors in this Grand Council during this Annual Session.

The M. P. Grand Master presented his Annual Address, which was, on motion of Companion Thos. C. Edwards, ordered to be spread at length on the minutes, and referred to a Committee of three, to apportion the various subjects therein noted, to appropriate Committees.

Beloved Companions:—It is with feelings of no ordinary pleasure, that I salute the Grand Council of the State of New York, at this, its annual gathering. The current of time has again wafted our Masonic bark, laden with blessings to the close of another year, and we are met in Grand Assembly to deliberate for the well-being of this important branch of our beloved Order. That those deliberations may be conducted in such a manner, as to promote in the highest degree the best good of Royal and Select Masonry in this jurisdiction, is my most earnest prayer, so that

when the time of separation comes, we may wish each other a hearty God-speed; having the pleasing consciousness that we have done our whole duty to our constituents and ourselves, and that our work, bearing the test of the overseer's square, and accepted by our Supreme Grand Master, has bound more closely around us the golden chain of the Masonic virtues, and cemented our hearts with greater love to God and our fellow-man.

In offering to you, Companions of the Grand Council, an account of my stewardship, during the past year, I shall endeavor to be as brief as the nature of the case will admit, and shall, without circumlocution, present my official acts for your inspection; being well assured that they will be viewed by you with the kindly eye of charity and that the errors which I may have committed, while acting as your representative, will be charged to the head and not the heart.

DISPENSATIONS.

During the past year, and since your last annual assembly, several applications have been made to me to establish new Councils within your jurisdiction.

In every instance in which such applications were granted by me as your Grand Master, the applicants had fully complied with the requirements of your Constitution and General Regulations, and came indorsed and recommended by those who have the best interests of your Body at heart; and I have no doubt that each Council, so constituted by me as aforesaid, will entirely justify my action, by a course alike honorable to itself and to the power that created it.

On the 10th day of October last, I issued letters of dispensation to August Willard, Seth S. Beckwith, Alvah H. Smith, and seven other Companions, to form and open a new Council to be called "Eureka," at the village of Greene, in the county of Chenango.

On the 14th day of December last, I issued like letters of dispensation to Henry F. L. Bunting, Nathan O. Benjamin, David Wagstaff, and ten other Companions, to form and open a new Council to be called "Adelphic," and to be located in the city of New York. And on the 22d day of said month of December, I issued a similar dispensation to Companions Hiram York, Carleton L. Farnum, Henry P. Talcott and six others, for a new Council to be called "Genesee" Council, and to be located at the village of Wellsville, in the county of Alleghany.

The constitutional fees for such dispensations were, in each instance, received by me, and duly paid over to your R. P. Grand Recorder. The account of which, as well as of all other moneys

received by me, during my term of office, will be found in an exhibit annexed to, and forming a part of this report and marked Exhibit A.

I would respectfully recommend to your Grand Body that charters be granted, at this assembly, to the several Councils so established by me, as hereinbefore mentioned, and that the officers nominated by them be named as such in their respective warrants.

CLANDESTINE BODIES.

The Most Worshipful Joseph D. Evans, Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York, having issued an edict declaring certain members of Holland Lodge, No. 8, expelled from our Order, I notified the Councils under this jurisdiction of the same, on the 27th of September last, and forbade them, or any member thereof, from holding any Masonic conversation with, or from admitting to their Councils, either as visitors or members, any person, or persons so expelled as aforesaid, or holding a clandestine relation to the Grand Lodge of this State. (A copy of the notice so sent by me is hereto annexed, and marked Exhibit B.)

On the 29th day of October last, having previously received from the R. P. Grand Recorder an official notice that Pennell Council, No. 2, had forfeited their charter, under Article II, Section 5, of the Constitution then in force, I demanded of the presiding officer of said Council its warrant and properties; which order having been disregarded, I issued an edict, on the 8th day of November following, declaring Pennell Council, No. 2, clandestine, and forbidding all intercourse with said Council, or with any of its members, as such, until the pleasure of this Grand Council should be made known in the premises. Annexed hereto and marked as Exhibit C, is a copy of the said edict, and of all papers relating thereto, and to which I respectfully call the attention of this Grand Body.

AMENDED CONSTITUTION.

On the 5th day of September last, I caused a circular-letter, under my hand and seal, to be sent to each subordinate Council under this jurisdiction, requiring their action upon the amended Constitution, as proposed in accordance with the terms of the resolution passed at your last annual assembly, in relation thereto and on the tenth day of November last, having previously received from the R. P. Grand Recorder an official notice that the said proposed Constitution had been favorably reported upon by a majority of the said subordinate Councils, I issued an edict, under my hand and the seal of this Grand Council proclaiming the said amended Constitution, as proposed, to be the Constitution of the M. P.

Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of the State of New York; and that the same, and every part thereof, would go into full effect on the first day of December following.

Copies of the notices and edict above referred to will be found annexed hereto, and marked Exhibit D.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to inform your Honorable Body that the said amended Constitution appears to meet the approbation of the Companions generally, and to answer perfectly well all the requirements and necessities of this Masonic jurisdiction; and although, perhaps, it might be in some respects modified, or altered to advantage, yet I would respectfully suggest that the well digested and carefully considered efforts of your Committee in the premises be not heedlessly or hastily disregarded.

FOREIGN GRAND COUNCILS.

I have been favored with a copy of the proceedings of most of the Grand Councils in the United States, and from their perusal I gather that Royal and Select Masonry, throughout the Union, is rapidly assuming that rank in the Masonic family that its importance demands; and that it is now almost universally acknowledged as the head, summit and perfection of Ancient Craft Masonry. It cannot, however, be necessary for me to dwell upon this subject, as it more properly belongs to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and has doubtlessly received, at their hands, the consideration which it so richly deserves.

GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL.

My attention having been called, by distinguished Companions of this and other jurisdictions, to the great necessity that exists for the formation of a General Grand Council, to which all questions of difficulty might be referred for adjudication and settlement, I have thought it best, through the Masonic Messenger, to request the several State Grand Councils to appoint one or more delegates, to meet in convention, at Hartford, Connecticut, on the second Tuesday of September next, for the purpose of organizing such a General Grand Body.

I have had much pleasant correspondence on this subject with M. P. Companions Alfred Creigh, of Pennsylvania, Gamaliel Washburn, of Vermont, and others, and the plan proposed has, so far as I can learn, met with the approbation of all concerned, and will, I doubt not, be fully carried into effect at the time and place abovementioned, and be found, when fairly tested, to add infinitely to our prosperity, harmony and usefulness.

I respectfully commend this whole matter to your attention, and would recommend that a committee of three be appointed by you, at this assembly, to represent this Grand Body in the proposed convention; and that said committee be invested with full power and authority to act for the Grand Council of the State of New York in the premises.

UNIFORMITY OF WORK.

The subject of uniformity of work is one which has long seemed to me to deserve peculiar attention at our hands, and it had fully been my intention, at this assembly, to bring the matter prominently before you for consideration; but upon more mature reflection, I have been induced to believe, that it will be more for your interests that this whole matter be, for the present at least, postponed. The differences of work that exist are so slight and immaterial in their nature, and there is so strong a probability that this subject will soon be definitely settled by action of the proposed General Grand Body, that I think it hardly feasible or necessary, at this time, to legislate in the premises.

OBITUARY NOTICE.

Since the last annual assembly of this Grand Council, Royal and Select Masonry has lost one of its chief ornaments and brightest luminaries, in the person of Nathan B. Haswell, who, at the time of his decease, was Grand Master of the Grand Council of Vermont. His death has made a vacancy in our Order which may not soon or easily be filled.

Let us all lay this important lesson to heart; and from it, learn that neither dignity, honor or exemplary usefulness can ward off the shaft of Death. God grant, that when the summons comes to us, we may be found as well prepared to obey and answer it as was our Companion Haswell; and thus, like him, be enabled fearlessly to meet the destroying angel and go to take

> "Our Chamber in the silent halls of death.
> Not like the quarry slave at night
> Scourged to his dungeon, but sustained and soothed
> By an unfaltering trust, approach the grave
> Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
> About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

I would respectfully suggest that this Grand Council take such action in the premises as may be necessary to express to the Order our appreciation of our common loss, and to the Grand Council of Vermont our heart-felt sympathy in their sad bereavement.

Before closing this, my first, and for the present, at least, my last official communication to you, as your Grand Master, I think but proper, by way of avoidance of any action which my Companions of this Grand Body might be inclined to take with reference to me, to declare, expressly, that I am not a candidate for re-election. For the kind partiality that elevated me to this important and dignified position, I can only say, that it is fully appreciated and felt in my heart of hearts; and nothing would give me more pleasure than to preside over your deliberations for another term, would my other Masonic, as well as professional engagements permit. The various offices, however, which by the kindness of my brethren, I now hold in the Order, require more labor at my hands than I can properly bestow, without devoting to them time which is imperatively demanded by other duties. To add to them, Companions, would be manifestly unjust to others and oppressive to myself.

That the motives of this declination on my part, will not be misunderstood by you, I feel convinced; permit me, however, to assure you that my interest in this important and impressive branch of the Order continues strong and unimpaired, and that, to the extent of my power, you will always find me ready and willing to co-operate with you in all measures necessary to carry out, perfect and perpetuate the glorious principles of our time-honored and beloved institution. After a brief, and I sincerely trust, a happy as well as useful session, we shall separate, my Companions, and may possibly never re-assemble together in this earthly Council. Let us, then, so discharge our various duties to God, our neighbor, and ourselves, that whether we meet again on earth or not, we may have the pleasing consciousness that our labors here have fitted us for a glorious reunion in the Grand Council above, when time and its concerns shall have passed away, and earthly hopes and fears have given place to immortality and rest.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. B. YATES SOMMERS, Grand Master.

EXHIBIT A.

J. B. Yates Sommers, Grand Master, in account with the M. P. Grand Council of the State of New York.

Dr.

1855.	Oct. 10.	To fee for dispensation to form "Eureka Council," at Greene, Chenango County, N. Y.....		$25.00
	Dec. 14.	To fee for dispensation to form "Adelphic Council," at New York City		20.00
	Dec. 22.	To fee for dispensation to form "Genesee Council," at Wellsville, Alleghany County, N.Y...		20.00
1856.	Feb. 9.	To fee for degrees conferred at sight on Comps. W. B. Crandall and J. P. Ennis.....		20.00
	April.	To fee for dispensation to "Washington Council," No. 1," to elect officers, etc.....		.50
	May 7.	To fee for dispensation to "Adelphic Council," U. D., to elect officers, etc.....		.50
				$86.00

Cr.

1855.	Oct. 14.	By Cash paid R. P. Grand Recorder	$25.00	
	Dec. 14.	By Cash paid R. P. Grand Recorder	20.00	
	Dec. 22.	By Cash paid R. P. Grand Recorder	20.00	
1856.	Feb. 9.	By Cash paid M. J. Drummond, on account of Regalia, etc..	20.50	
	May 31.	To Cash paid for postage, etc.	.50	
				$86.00

J. B. YATES SOMMERS, Grand Master.

EXHIBIT B.

"Office of the Most Puissant Grand Master of Royal and Select Masons of the State of New York.

"New York, Sept. 27th, A. Dep. 2855.

"To the Thrice Illustrious Master and Comps. of———— Council, No.———.

"The M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, having officially announced to the Lodges under his jurisdiction, that a certain number of Masons, a portion of Holland Lodge, No. 8, had been declared clandestine, for insubordination and unmasonic conduct. Now, therefore, take notice, that you are hereby forbidden to hold any Masonic conversation with, or admit to your Council, either as visitor or member, any person holding said clandestine relation to the said M. W. Grand Lodge.

"You will observe, however, that a new 'warrant of authority' has been granted to certain members of said Lodge, remaining true to their allegiance, under the same name and number, and will discriminate accordingly.

"The rule of discipline consequent upon a violation of this edict will be strictly enforced."

Given under my hand and private seal, at the said city of New Yoı k, the day and year above written.

J. B. YATES SOMMERS, G. M.

[L. S.]

"Attest, Robert Macoy, Grand Recorder."

EXHIBIT C.

"Office of the Grand Recorder of Royal and Select Masons, State of New York.

"October 26th, 1855.

J. B. Yates Sommers, M. P. Grand Master.

"By reference to Article II, Sec. 5, of the Constitution of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of the State of New York, it will be seen, that 'any Council neglecting or refusing to make returns or pay dues for more than one year, shall be punished by the forfeiture of its warrant.' "

"You are hereby informed that Pennell Council, No. 2, has neglected to pay dues, or make returns to the Grand Council, in accordance with Art. II, Sec. 5, and is, therefore, liable to have its warrant recalled.

Fraternally yours,

ROBERT MACOY, Grand Recorder."

"Office of the M. P. Grand Master of Royal and Select Masons of State of New York.

"October 29th, A. Dep. 2855.

"To the T. I. M. of Pennell Council, No. 2:

"T. I. and Dear Comps.:—Having been informed, by the R. P. Grand Recorder, that Pennell Council, No. 2, has neglected to pay dues or make returns to the Grand Council, in accordance with Art. II, Sec. 5, of the Constitution, it becomes my duty, as Grand Master, to demand of you the warrant and properties of said Pennell Council."

Fraternally yours,

J. B. YATES SOMMERS, G. M."

"Office of the Most Puissant Grand Master of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

"November 8th, A. Dep., 2855.

"To whom it may concern, and particularly to the Royal and Select Masons of the State of New York, Greeting:

"It is with much regret that we announce to the Royal and Select Masons of this jurisdiction that Pennell Council, No. 2, has been declared by us clandestine, for insubordination, and disobedience to Art. II, Sec. 5, of the Constitution.

"We have demanded of the T. I. Master the warrant and properties of the said Council, which order has not been obeyed. Be it known, therefore, that we do, by these presents, forbid all Masonic intercourse with the said clandestine Council, or with any of its members, as such.

"The rule of discipline consequent upon a violation of this edict will be strictly enforced.

"Given under our hand, and the seal of the Grand Council at the city of New York, the day and year above written.

J. B. YATES SOMMERS, Grand Master.

[L. S.]

"Attest, Robert Macoy, Grand Recorder."

EXHIBIT D.

"Office of the Most Puissant Grand Master of Royal and Select Masons of the State of New York.

"New York, September 5th, A. Dep. 2855.

"To the Thrice Illus. Master of————————Council No.————.

"T. I. Comp.:—Accompanying this you will find an authenticated copy of a resolution, unanimously passed at the last annual assembly of the Grand Council, together with a copy of the amended Constitution, as proposed, authorized thereby.

"You will, in accordance with the terms of said resolution, cause the said amended Constitution to be read at the next regular assembly of your Council, and action to be taken thereon, as directed in the said resolution.

"You will then cause the Recorder of your Council to forward to the R. P. Grand Recorder of the Grand Council, an authenticated report of the result of the vote of your said Council, upon the adoption or rejection of the said amended Constitution, as proposed, in accordance with the form herewith inclosed.

J. B. YATES SOMMERS, G. M."

[L. S.]

"Office of the R. P. Grand Recorder of Royal and Select Masons of the State of New York.

"October 15th, 1855.

"To the Most Puissant Grand Master of Royal and Select Masons of the State of New York:

M. P. and Dear Sir:—In accordance with the resolution adopted at the last annual assembly of the Grand Council, with reference to an amended Constitution, I have the honor to inform you, that the amended Constitution, as proposed by the Committee, having been regularly submitted to the several subordinate Councils, as required by said resolution, has been favorably reported on by a majority of said Councils, authorized to vote thereupon, and that authenticated copies of the result of the votes of the said subordinate Councils are now in my possession.

ROBERT MACOY, G. Recorder."

"Office of the Most Puissant Grand Master of Royal and Select Masons of the State of New York.

November 10th, A. Dep. 2855.

"To the ————————

"Having received official notice from the Right Puissant Grand Recorder that the amended Constitution, as proposed by the Committee appointed at the last annual assembly, has been favorably reported upon by a majority of the subordinate Councils authorized to vote thereon.

"I hereby proclaim the said amended Constitution, as proposed (a copy whereof is herewith inclosed) to be the Constitution of the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York, and that the same, and every part thereof, will go into full effect on the first day of December, A. Dep. 2855.

"In witness whereof, I have hereinto signed my name and caused the seal of our Grand Council to be hereunto affixed, the day and year first above written.

J. B. YATES SOMMERS, Grand Master.

[L. S.]

"Attest, Robert Macoy, Grand Recorder."

Comps. Edwards, Simons and Benjamin were appointed a Committee on said Address.

The M. P. Grand Master appointed the following

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Credentials and Returns:—Comps. Benjamin, Tindale and Simons.

On Finance:—Comps. Edwards, Fenton and Bunting.

On Grievances:—Comps. Drummond, Pritchard and Parker.

The Grand Recorder presented the following report, which was on motion, referred to the Finance Committee, viz:

To the Grand Council of New York:

The Grand Recorder has the honor to submit herewith his annual report: That early in the past year I transmitted to the Subordinate Councils under this jurisdiction, as directed by resolution of the Grand Council, copies of the amended Constitution for their

consideration and adoption; subsequently, and within the prescribed time, the said amended Constitution was returned, the following Councils having given their affirmative votes thereto: Washington, No. 1; Oriental, No. 3; Brooklyn, No. 4; and Excelsior, No. 6.

The Constitution was then regularly issued, and transmitted to all the Councils in this jurisdiction; also to the Grand Councils in correspondence with this Grand Council.

I have procured the necessary books for the proper keeping of the minutes, accounts, registering of members, etc.

I received, during the year, the following sums of money:

From P. G. Recorder, P. Pritchard	$19.69
" Dispensation for Eureka Council	25.00
" Dispensation for Genesee Council	20.00
" Dispensation for Adelphic Council	20.00
" M. P. Grand Master, for Degrees conferred	20.00
" Certificate and fees	1.00
" M. J. Drummond	28.00
	$133.69

Which has been paid to the Grand Treasurer, and his receipt taken therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT MACOY, Grand Recorder.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following, being his annual report:

New York, June 2nd, 1856.

Report of the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

1855.			
Aug. 24.	Received from Grand Recorder		$19.69
Oct. 29.	Received from Grand Recorder		25.00
1856.			
May 31.	Received from Grand Recorder		89.00
			$133.69
1855.			
Sept. 5.	Paid Draft	$12.50	
July 24.	Paid Draft	22.50	
1856.			
May 31.	Paid Draft	57.00	
			92.00
	Balance on hand		$41.69

D. S. SINCLAIR, Grand Treasurer.

Which was, on motion of Comp. Bunting referred to the Finance Committee,

Comp. J. W. Simons, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the following report, which was, on motion of Comp. Drummond, ordered to be spread upon the minutes, viz:
To the Grand Council of the State of New York:

The undersigned, Committee on Foreign Correspondence, present this, their report on the subject, to this Grand Council, with mingled feelings of trepidation and pride. Pride, that by the efforts of devoted friends, the "select few" to whom we owe our organization, have been enabled to set this Body on its present respectable footing, and draw the attention of our Companion Royal Arch Masons to the importance of these degrees, as the summit and perfec-

tion of Ancient Craft Masonry. Trepidation, lest this imperfect sketch should be thrown aside as unfit for the building.

Your Committee deem the appointment of proper persons to take charge of the correspondence of sister Grand Bodies, and annually bring to your notice such occurrences as may have transpired in their midst, with their views of the bearing of such questions as may be deemed of interest or importance to the Craft, as an eminently wise one, and calculated to forward the interests of the Companions, wherever dispersed, by a mutual interchange of sentiments and opinions, as a means of producing uniformity of action and doctrine throughout the wide regions of the Union. The reports of the various Committees in New York have enjoyed a well earned and enviable reputation for their liberal and enlightened views, and temperate discussion of questions presented; and have, in our judgment, conduced, in a great measure, to the elevated standing of New York Masons among their compeers. We do not, for a moment entertain the hope that this attempt will be classed with the finished efforts we have spoken of, but we make it with the knowledge that it is the best we can do at present, with the hope that it may be a corner stone whereon future and wiser Companions shall erect a structure worthy of the Body and the Order.

We have received, in the order herein named, and purpose to review the proceedings of the following Councils:

Illinois.....Assembly of Sep. 26th, 1855.
Connecticut.....Assembly of May 8th, 1855.
Vermont.....Assembly of Aug. 10th, 1855.
Ohio.....Assembly of Oct. 18th, 1855.
Alabama.....Assembly of Dec. 6th, 1855.
Georgia.....Assembly of April 25th, 1855.
Kentucky.....Assembly of Aug. 29th, 1855.

ILLINOIS.

James H. Hibbard, M. P. G. M. The annual assembly was held in the City of Jacksonville, on the 26th of September, and continued, by adjournments, to the 4th of October following.

Seven subordinate Councils were present by their representatives; of these, four received their charters at an early period of the assembly, and were invited, by resolution to take seats and participate in the proceedings.

The address of the M. P., though mostly devoted to local matters, gives evidence of great devotion to the Order, and well deserves the resolution of enconium subsequently passed. M. P. Companion Hibbard granted dispensations to form Councils in Iowa, and recommends a comparison of the work, to the end that uniform-

ity may be established in the beginning. He had also authorized Companions to heal illegally made Royal and Select Masters, on condition that they should attach themselves to some regular Council. Your Committee highly approve of this course, and believe, that if a similar one were adopted here, our numbers would be largely increased, and Councils instituted in connection with every Chapter in the State.

A resolution was adopted, forbidding the making of Royal and Select Masters in the Grand Council, unless they have been previously proposed and balloted for in the Councils having jurisdiction over them, and then only for the benefit of said Councils. We recommend a similar resolution to your consideration.

We notice a proposed amendment to the Constitution, striking out the words "without nomination." If this refers, as we presume it does, to the election of officers,we must express our regret that our Companions in Illinois propose to take a step backward. To our comprehension nothing can be more unmasonic, and less in keeping with the solemnity and decorum of a Masonic assembly, than what is termed open nominations. Though the practice just alluded to has, for years, prevailed in our own State, yet we have seen, with unalloyed pleasure, the Grand Chapter and Grand Encampment laying it aside, by tacit consent, never again, we sincerely trust, to be revived. The offices in our gift should be the reward of merit, and should be conferred with that silent dignity that becomes us. Let us hope our Companions in Illinois will hesitate before departing from their present rule. Thrice Ill. Levi Lusk was elected Grand Master and Comp. H. G. Reynolds re-elected Grand Recorder. There are seven warranted Councils and one U. D., having one hundred and sixty-two members.

CONNECTICUT.

Thrice Ill. Francois Turner, M. P. G. M.: The annual assembly was held in the City of Hartford, May 8th, 1855. Eleven Councils were present.

Thr. Ill. Companion Turner, in his address to the Grand Council, speaking of their daughter, New York, says: "We like to see her zeal, but yet would hope that such zeal were tempered with prudence. If men should be ever careful not to lavish their benefits with inconsiderate prodigality, so it should be the duty of all Masons not to lavish their secrets, for fear that they might fall into the hands of those who do not value the gifts too freely and imprudently bestowed upon them. This is spoken not as a reproof to our daughter, but as a word of admonition in due time." We accept the caution, and will cause our acts to show that we appreciate it.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence had before them the proceedings of five Grand Councils, and disposed of them with great brevity, finding nothing to call for particular comment.

A resolution was adopted, directing subordinate Councils, hereafter, to make full returns of all their members; which has not heretofore been done.

We trust the proper officers will see that the resolution is complied with, and publish the names, as a matter of convenient reference, and the best evidence of healthy progress.

T. I. Alexander Hamilton was elected M. P. G. M. and Comp. E. G. Storer re-elected Grand Recorder.

There are twelve Councils in this State (number of members not given). Sixty-two new Companions were received and acknowledged.

VERMONT.

Comp. Philip C. Tucker, P. D. G. M.: The annual assembly was holden in the town of Royalton, on the 10th August, 1855. Eight Councils present, by their representatives, and a number of visiting Companions.

The D. G. Master, in his address, says: "Our constitution declares the right of this Grand Body to the sole government and superintendence of all Councils of Royal and Select Masters in this State. This right can hardly be doubted. The Grand Chapters, Grand Encampments and Grand Lodges of this and all other States, when legitimately formed, according to Masonic rule, have universally acted upon this right as an inherent one, as one necessary to the safe regulation of the local bodies of their respective Orders, and without which Masonry could not exist in its purity and strength." These remarks of Comp. Tucker have allusion to certain Councils formerly connected with Royal Arch Chapters in that State, and are a virtual assumption of authority over them, which, of right, belongs to the Grand Council, and which, in view of the decision of the G. Grand Chapter on the subject, none ought to dispute.

They are well-timed, and we quote them for the information of those Companions in our own jurisdiction, who, having received the degrees in their Chapter, imagine that this G. Council has no right to control them. Every well wisher of the Craft will see how pernicious such a doctrine must prove, if allowed to go uncontradicted. The question of jurisdiction had been long and thoroughly discussed, and the governing Bodies of Royal Arch Masonry, both State and National, having decided their want of it, and this and other Grand Councils, having been formed in accordance with Masonic rule, it follows that they of right are the sole power to control and govern

those who would practice our mysteries in a lawful manner; and it also follows, that every Companion who desires to perpetuate the American system of Masonic Government, should at once connect himself with a subordinate Council in regular standing; and, to the extent of his ability, aid in supporting the just authority of the Grand Body.

Resolutions of respect to the memory of T. I. Comp. Nathan B. Haswell, first M. P. G. M. of Vermont were adopted, and the jewels of the G. Council ordered to be dressed in mourning for the space of one year. Comp. Gamaliel Washburn was elected M. P. G. M. and Comp. John B. Hollenbeck re-elected G. Recorder.

There are eight Councils in Vermont, having a membership, as far as reported, of one hundred and ninety-nine.

OHIO.

T. I. John M. Barrere, G. P. The annual assembly of the Grand Council of Ohio was held at Mansfield, on the 18th day of October, 1855. Delegates from thirteen subordinate Councils being in attendance. The address of the G. Master is devoted to matters of local interest. There appears to have been no Committee on Foreign Correspondence, nor, as far as we can learn, any provision for the appointment of one. Will not our Companions in Ohio come up to help, aid and assist in this important part of the work? Now it is that we most need laborers in this portion of our vineyard. We need not attempt, by any argument, to convince them of the good that may be effected by an united effort. We need not tell them how much will be added to our standing and dignity among the Craft in this country by the mutual interchange of courtesies and opinions, for which this is so acceptable a medium. A moment's reflection will surpass the best effort we could make. Let us hope, that in future, Ohio will not be silent when the rest are at labor.

A Committee, headed by the M. P., was formed for the purpose of devising means of procuring uniformity of work in their jurisdiction. The importance of this subject is beyond dispute, but we venture to ask the support of the Grand Council of Ohio, as we do of all others, in the formation of a General Grand Body, whereby we may compare the work of every section of our country, and secure uniformity of work throughout the whole Order, a consummation most devoutly to be wished, and easier of accomplishment now, while the Order is yet in its youth (as far as present organization goes), than it will be in a few years when we shall have attained the years and proportions of maturity. We observe that the Grand Council of Ohio fixes, by resolution, at each annual assembly, the time and place for its next meeting, and we believe it would be for the best interest of this body to adopt the same plan. We know of no

good reason why New York City, with its multitudinous population, its never-ending bustle, should be fixed upon as the permanent abode of any of our Masonic Grand Bodies, while on the contrary, there appears to us a variety of reasons why we should choose other and more suitable locations. The practice of many years has almost given the force of an Ancient Landmark to the provision requiring Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge to be held here, and the consequence is, that many Masons live and die without ever having been present at its sessions, or having other than a fanciful idea of its dignity and appearance. To us, the Grand Lodge, when duly assembled in Annual Communication, is one of the most absorbing and delightful spectacles in Masonry, and we would that every worthy Brother might at least once enjoy the privelege of participating with us in the delightful season, which can only be accomplished by making the annual meetings free from any set rules as to time and place, and allowing the Grand Lodge, when assembled, to make provision for the next meeting. The same remarks will apply, in a lesser degree, to this Body, and we submit for your approval a resolution to effect what we consider so desirable an object. In Council Masonry as in the other branches of the Order, Ohio is one of the most prosperous and enlightened jurisdictions. May she ever continue so.

Comp. John M. Barrere was re-elected G. P. and Comp. John D. Caldwell was re-elected G. Recorder.

Ohio has twenty warranted Councils and three U. D. During the year there were one hundred and eighty-six advancements and her total membership is five hundred and ten.

ALABAMA.

T. I. J. McCaleb Wiley, G. P. The annual assembly was held at Montgomery, December 6th, 1855. Seventeen Councils were represented.

No address from the Grand Master. From the annual report of the Grand Recorder we learn that three new Councils were established, U. D., during the year, two of them in Texas, the other in New Orleans, and that the finances of the Grand Council were in very satisfactory state. He also announces the death of Comp. Hartwell, G. Lecturer, and the G. Council subsequently adopted appropriate resolutions.

We copy the following resolutions, as of great importance to the Order, in its present state, and as a matter of reference in what we shall have to say further on:

"*Resolved,* That the Grand Council of the State of Alabama has exclusive jurisdiction over all the subordinate Councils in this State,

and over the degrees of Royal and Select Masters, and any attempt on the part of the Grand Consistory of South Carolina, or any officer thereof, to establish Councils in this State, or to confer these degrees, by any of its officers, will be regarded as an act of usurpation and unwarranted by Masonic usage.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolution be forwarded to the Grand Consistory of South Carolina by the Grand Recorder.

Resolved, That the Special Committee, heretofore appointed to confer with the General Grand Consistory at Charleston, and other bodies, in relation to the Council degrees, be and they are hereby discharged."

Not being in possession of the previous transactions of our sister, Alabama, we are not aware of the precise nature of the difficulty, but we infer that the Grand Consistory has either attempted or actually established Councils in Alabama, subordinate to her jurisdiction, and that the Grand Council finding remonstrance in vain, has determined to assert her dignity and authority within the bounds of her lawful jurisdiction, which she very properly does by the first resolution above quoted.

This is a matter in which we are all concerned, for there is no reason why the Grand Consistory may not establish Councils here, or in any other State, as well as in Alabama and which we should of course repel. We entertain no desire to interfere with the Scottish Rite, which, in its proper place, we acknowledge and practice, but we may be allowed to say that it stands on too insecure a basis in this country to admit of any interference, on its part, with the lawfully established bodies of our rite. We assure our Companions of Alabama of our entire sympathy, and sincerely trust that the Grand Consistory, seeing their error, may discontinue their interference with our rights.

T. I. Comp. Wiley was re-elected Grand Puissant and Comp. Pfister re-elected Grand Recorder.

There are thirty-one Councils under the jurisdiction of Alabama.

Number of members not given.

GEORGIA.

T. Ill. Philip T. Schley, Grand Master. The annual assembly was held in the city of Augusta, on the 25th April, 1855. Seven Councils were represented.

The M. P. G. M. had during the year visited and worked with six of the subordinate Councils, and very properly remarks, "The

rites and mysteries 'which preserved and transmitted to future ages the omnific work, with the book of life, free from the fire and sword of the heathen,' should be well understood and correctly administered. The exemplification of each of the degrees during our convocation in Grand Council ought to be carefully observed, learned and treasured up by each and every delegate from the subordinate Councils; and upon their return home, practiced upon some volunteer Companion, the lectures and history rehearsed often by them, in open Council, and when practicable, at every meeting."

Ill. Comp. Schley appears to be an ardent workman in the field before him, and he certainly is "wise in counsel."

A resolution was adopted to exclude the delegate of Council No. 12, because that body, after previous notice, had neglected to procure a seal, and its returns were not, therefore, properly certified. We approve of this, for we are greatly in favor of looking after all the details of our business. A seal is the signature of an association, and it is just as proper for a Masonic Body to be without one as it would be for a business man not to know how to write his name.

Two new charters were granted during the assembly.

T. Ill. Philip T. Schley and Comp. B. B. Russell were severally re-elected M. P. G. M. and Recorder.

There are eleven Councils in Georgia. There were, as far as heard from, fifty advancements, and the total membership is two hundred and seventy-seven.

KENTUCKY.

T. I. Philip Swigert, G. P. The annual assembly of this Grand Council was held in the city of Lexington on the 29th of August, 1855.

Representatives from ten warranted and three Councils U. D. being present, by their delegates. No address from the Grand Puissant, nor report on Foreign Correspondence. We judge, from the pamphlet before us, that the Order is in a sound condition, and we certainly wish them God-speed, with less inclination to brevity in the future.

T. I. Comp. Swigert and Comp. Hodges were re-elected G. P. and G. Recorder

The G. Council of Kentucky exercises jurisdiction over twenty-one warranted Councils and two U. D., a majority of which are in their State; others in Indiana and Texas.

We have also in addition to the above been put in possession of a circular, through the kindness of a friend, announcing the formation of a Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in Maine.

It appears that the Grand Council was formed by a convention of individuals, consisting of Comp. Robert P. Dunlap and twenty-eight others, who proceeded to declare a Grand Council formed and elected officers from among themselves. This procedure is so much at variance with the generally received manner of forming Grand Bodies in the several branches of Masonry that we must be allowed to express our surprise that such distinguished companions as those whose names appear on the list present should have been willing to participate in this manifest innovation. In the Scottish rite it may be proper to establish supreme powers, and afterward create subordinates for them to govern, but in the more simple style of our own rite, subordinates are the first necessity, and Grand Bodies the result; being established by consent of the governed for the preservation of uniformity in work and practice, and the more effectual preservation of the laws and regulations of the order.

Under these circumstances, we feel it our duty to refuse a recognition of the so-called Grand Council of Maine, on the ground that Masonic precedent has been violated in their formation.

A GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL.

Your Committee venture to call the attention of this Grand Council, and through them, that our Companions throughout the country, to what they deem the importance of establishing a General Grand Council of the United States. We are now, so to speak, in our infancy as a distinct organization of the Masonic family. The powers now exercised by the several State Grand Councils have long been in doubt, and have been partially claimed and exercised by Grand and Subordinate Chapters of Royal Masons, and by Grand Consistories of the Scottish Rite, as in the case of Alabama, already referred to. The question of our right of jurisdiction is now, however, settled; and it remains for us to consolidate and arrange it, that we may be admitted, and recognized as a portion of what may be termed the American rite or series of degrees. Our particular place in the line, is not just now, well determined, and we think it may, also, be truly said, that the peculiar work of our Order is not as fully settled and uniform as it must be, if we desire to preserve our identity. This point we feel to be of passing importance, and we cannot well see how it is to be effected in any other way than by the elevation of a Supreme Central Power, from whence shall emanate the true and only work. While your Committee feel great pride in the character, standing and just rights of this and all other State Grand Councils, they also feel that the

general welfare of the whole Order is of more immediate concern; that we should take pride in being members of the Order, as a whole, rather than in our connection with any subordinate or particular body of it. By the establishment of a General Grand Body, we shall secure a national existence, instead of a merely local one; through it we shall unite the Select of every portion of our country in one stupendous effort for the establishment of our Order on a solid and enduring basis. We cannot sympathize with those who clamor for State rights or refuse to yield a fraction of State dignity. The G. G. Body, if established, will be composed of the representatives of the Companions of the several States, and its Constitution, like those of the G. G. Chapter and G.G. Encampment, will be based upon the existing and acknowledged rights of the several States; and it must be strange, indeed, if a government of this republican character fail to elicit the approval of men reared in the atmosphere of a country whose best claim to the admiration and friendship of the nations of the world is founded on the devotion of States and people alike, to the government they have erected, and which they support with unswerving fidelity.

The approaching sessions of the national Masonic Bodies, at Hartford, will, in our opinion, offer a propitious season for the advancement of the cause; and should the plan meet the approval of our sister Grand Councils, steps might then be taken to effect an organization, or at least to adjust the preliminaries. In conclusion, we offer for the consideration and adoption of the Grand Council, the following resolutions:

Resolved, That in future, no Companions shall be received or greeted in the Grand Council, unless they have been previously proposed and balloted for in a subordinate Council, having jurisdiction, and then only for the benefit of said Council.

Resolved, That so much of the Constitution as relates to the time and place of meeting, Sec. 11, Art. I, of the Constitution, be stricken out, and the following inserted in its place:

"The Grand Council shall, by resolution, at each annual assembly, fix the time and place for holding the next assembly."

Resolved, That the Grand Officers be, and they are hereby empowered to take such steps as, in their judgment, may be advisable toward the formation and establishment of a General Grand Council of R. and S. Masons for the United States.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

John W. Simons,
Robert Macoy, } Committee.
N. O. Benjamin,

The resolutions were then ordered to be taken up separately.

The first and second resolutions were adopted.

The first resolution was, on motion, referred to the Committee, when appointed, having charge of the same subject as alluded to in the M. P. Grand Master's address.

On motion of Companion Macoy:

Resolved, That when this Grand Council adjourns, it will adjourn to meet on Wednesday evening next, 4th inst.

Companion Thos. C. Edwards, from the Committee on apportioning the various subjects in the M. P. Grand Master's Address, presented the following report; which was, on motion, accepted and the recommendation adopted:

To the Grand Council of the State of New York:

The Committee to whom was referred the able address of the M. P. Grand Master, having had the same under that consideration to which its merits and ability justly entitle it, ask leave to submit the following as their Report:

The Committee are gratified to learn from the Report and address of our M. P. G. M. of the healthful and prosperous state of Royal and Select Masonry within our jurisdiction. The "Grand Council of New York" now sends Greeting to our Worthy and Illustrious Companions of the Union, with the welcome and grateful assurance that her workmen are successfully engaged in pursuing their secret labors—the rubbish is removed, and the arches resound with the working tools of our diligent, faithful and enlightened craftsmen. Great credit is due to the officers composing this Grand Council, for their unceasing and unwavering devotion to the interests and welfare of that particular branch of our ancient and beloved Order, which has been confided to their care, and to none would we award a higher meed of praise and thankfulness than to our esteemed and illustrious Companion who has so ably presided over this Grand Body during the past year.

The Committee recommend as follows:

First: That so much of the address of our M. P. G. M., as relates to "Dispensations and Charters" be referred to a committee, which we recommend be appointed for that purpose.

Second: So much of said address as relates to a "General Grand Council," and the proposed Convention at Hartford, to a special committee of five.

Third: That of which relates to "Uniformity of Work," to a committee of three, of which the Grand Lecturer is to be one.

Fourth: So much of the address, having reference to the decease of our illustrious Companion N. B. Haswell, of Vermont, to a select committee of three.

Fifth: The remarks having reference to "Foreign Grand Councils," we recommend be referred to Committee on "Foreign Correspondence." We also subjoin the following resolution:

Resolved, That the acts and doings of our M. P. G. M., having reference to "Pennell Council" be, and the same are hereby ratified and confirmed.

Fraternally submitted, in mystic bonds,

T. C. Edwards,
J. W. Simons, } Committee.
N. O. Benjamin,

New York, June, 1856.

Comp. Bunting submitted the following as the Committee of five, on the subject of the General Grand Council: Comps. Sommers, Edwards, Simons, Macoy and Drummond.

Committee on Uniformity of Work:—Comps. Drummond, Brush and Fenton.

Committe on the Death of Comp. Haswell:—Comps. Sinclair, Wagstaff and Moriarty.

The subject of a manual for Councils of Royal and Select Masters was referred to the Committee on Uniformity of Work.

On motion of Comp. Edwards,

Resolved, That the work of the Order be exemplified at the next meeting by the Grand Officers.

On motion of Companion Benjamin

Resolved, That the election of officers be made the special order for the next meeting, at 9 o'clock.

On motion, the Grand Council adjourned until Wednesday evening next, at 8 o'clock.

Wednesday, June 4th.

The Grand Council met pursuant to adjournment, Comp. J. B. Y. Sommers, M. P. G. M. in the chair.

Comp. Wagstaff, from the Committee on so much of the Grand Master's Address as relates to the death of M. P. Comp. Nathan B. Haswell, presented the following report, which was on motion, received and the resolutions adopted, viz:

To the Grand Council of New York:

Your Committee, to whom was referred that part of the address of our M. P. Grand Master, which officially communicates the decease of M. P. Companion Nathan B. Haswell, would respectfully offer for the consideration of this Grand Council, the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, It has pleased our Supreme Grand Master to remove from our earthly communion, Companion Nathan B. Haswell, of Vermont, be it, therefore,

Resolved, That in the death of M. P. Companion Haswell, who at the time of his decease was Grand Master of the Grand Council of Vermont, and who for so many years was devoted to the interests of our beloved Order, Royal and Select Masonry has lost one of its most valuable members.

Resolved, That this Grand Council sincerely deplore the loss of our late M. P. Companion, and hereby tender to the Grand Council of Vermont, and particularly to the family of the deceased, its warmest condolence and heart-felt sympathy in this, their sad bereavement.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes, and that the R. P. Grand Recorder transmit a printed copy of the proceedings of this assembly to the family of the deceased, and also to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Council of Vermont.

David Wagstaff, }
D. S. Sinclair, } Committee.

Comp. Benjamin, from the Committee on Dispensations and Warrants, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received and the resolution adopted, viz:

To the Grand Council of the State of New York:

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations, to whom

was referred the petition of a constitutional number of Companions, praying for a warrant to continue a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the city of New York, to be called Adelphic Council.

Also, a like petition for a Council, to be located at Greene, Chenango County, to be called Eureka Council.

Also, a like petition for a Council, to be located at Wellsville, Alleghany County, to be called Genesee Council, respectfully report, that the above-named Councils have been working under dispensations, duly granted by the M. P. Grand Master, and we find, on examination, their proceedings to be regular and in conformity with the rules and regulations of the Constitution of this Grand Council, therefore, offer for adoption, the following resolutions:

Resolved, That a warrant be granted to Henry F. L. Bunting, John J. Tindale, S. B. Tobey, Jr., and others, to hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the city of New York, by the name and style of Adelphic Council, No. 7.

Resolved, That a warrant be granted to Augustus Willard, Seth S. Beckwith, Alva H. Smith, and others, to hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the village of Greene, Chenango County, by the name and style Eureka Council, No. 8.

Resolved, That a warrant be granted to H. York, C. L. Farnum, H. P. Talcott, and others, to hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the village of Wellsville, Alleghany County, by the name and style of Genesee Council, No. 9, whenever they shall return their dispensation to the Grand Recorder.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

N. O. Benjamin,
John J. Tindale,
John W. Simons.

Comp. Drummond, from the Committee on Returns, offered the following report, which was received, and referred to the Grand Recorder, viz:

The Committee on Returns beg leave to report, that they find five Councils have made returns.

Washington Council, No. 1, imperfect, in not giving date of Reception or joining; amount of dues not properly carried out. The total amount correct.

Oriental, No. 3, incorrect, in charging Registry fees for members who had withdrawn to form Adelphic Council. Amount returned, $11.68; it should be $7.93.

Excelsior, No. 6, has not charged dues for part of a year, and Registry fees not properly carried out. The amount of dues in other respects, correct. Birth-places of some of its members not given.

Eureka, U. D., has charged Registry fees for those only received during the year.

Registry fees should have been charged for all.

Amount returned,	$7.63
Still due	2.50
	$10.13

Adelphic, U. D., correct.

M. J. Drummond,
J. J. Tindale.

Bills were received from Comps. Fisk, Dowding and Macoy, which were, on motion, referred to the Finance Committee, with power to order them paid, if found to be correct.

Comp. Tindale offered the following resolution, which was on motion, adopted, viz:

Resolved, That this Grand Council has exclusive jurisdiction over the Degrees of R. and S. M's. in this State, and that any attempt on the part of any Grand Consistory, or other body, to confer those degrees, will be regarded as an act of usurpation, and unwarranted by Masonic usage.

The hour for the Special Order, being the election of Officers, having arrived, the Grand Master directed the election to proceed, (Comps. Fenton and Tobey acting as Tellers), which resulted in the following choice of

GRAND OFFICERS.

Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers....M. P. Grand Master.

Who, in a few remarks, appreciating the kindness of the Companions for the honors bestowed upon him declined the election.

Comp. H. F. L. Bunting was elected M. P. Grand Master.
Comp. Thos. C. Edwards was elected R.P.Dep.Gr. Master.
Comp. John J. Tindale was elected..Grand Illus. Master.

Who declined accepting the office, and expressed his gratitude for this and many other favors generously bestowed upon him by his associate Companions.

Comp. Jas. T. Brush was elected....R. P. Gr. Ill. Master.
Comp. David Wagstaff was elected G. P. C. of the Works.
Comp. Robert Macoy was elected.....Grand Recorder.
Comp. D. S. Sinclair was elected.....Grand Treasurer.

Comp. Drummond, from the Committee on organizing a General Grand Council for the United States, made a verbal report favorable to the establishment of a General Grand Council. The report was, on motion, received, and the recommendation adopted.

Comp. John W. Simons offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the several Councils in this jurisdiction be, and they are hereby empowered to heal all illegally made Royal and Select Masters, provided, the Companions thus healed shall agree to attach themselves to the Council having lawful jurisdiction over them.

Comp. D. W. Fenton presented the following resolutions, which were on motion, adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Master be empowered to inquire into the matter of Minnesota Council, No. 4, and to demand of its presiding officer a statement of its affairs, and that a return be immediately made to this Grand Council, or that its Warrant and properties be surrendered until the next Annual Assembly of this body; and it is further

Resolved, That the M. P. Grand Master have full power to act in the premises as to him shall seem meet and proper.

On motion of Comp. Thos. C. Edwards:

Resolved, That the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council be held on the Wednesday evening succeeding the first Tuesday in June, in the city of New York.

Comp. J. W. Simons moved to amend: That the subject be referred, with power, to the first four officers. The amendment was put and lost. The question on the original resolution was then taken and adopted.

Comp. Thos. C. Edwards, from the Committee on the Recognition of Degrees by other Masonic Bodies, reported that he had offered the following resolution in the Grand Encampment of this State, at its last Annual Conclave, which was laid on the table:

Resolved, That our Representatives to the next Triennial Session of the General Grand Encampment of the United States, be and they are hereby instructed to use their influence in that body to procure an amendment to the General Grand Constitution, to the effect that the Orders of Knighthood shall not be conferred upon Companions who have not regularly received the degrees of Royal and Select Master, in addition to the several degrees now required by said Constitution.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed into their respective offices in due form, by M. P. Comp. J. B. Y. Sommers, Past Grand Master.

By Comp. T. C. Edwards:

Resolved, That the Special Order for this evening, being the exemplification of the work, be deferred until the meeting of Adelphic Council, to be called for that purpose.

Comp. J. B. Y. Sommers, from the Committee on Jewels, reported progress, which was, on motion, accepted.

The minutes were read and approved.

There being no further business before the body, the Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

H. F. L. BUNTING, Grand Master.

Robert Macoy, Grand Recorder.

Moneys received during the Session, by the Grand Recorder from the following sources:

Washington Council, No. 1	$10.50
Oriental Council, No. 2	11.68
Brooklyn Council, No. 4	10.50
Excelsior Council, No. 6	11.25
Adelphic Council, U. D	18.13
Eureka Council, U. D	7.63
Genesee Council, U. D	15.00
	$84.69

GRAND COUNCILS

IN THE UNITED STATES.

GRAND COUNCILS	GRAND MASTERS	GRAND RECORDERS	TIME OF MEETING
Alabama	J. M'Caleb Wiley	Amand P. Pfister	December
Connecticut	Alex. Hamilton	E. G. Stover	May
Illinois	Jas. H. Hibbard	H. G. Reynolds	September
Kentucky	Philip Swigert	A. G. Hodges	October
Maine	R. P. Dunlap	Ira Berry	May
Vermont	G. Washburn	J. B. Hollenbeck	August
Georgia	Philip T. Schley	B. B. Russell	April
Indiana	Wm. Hacker	Francis King	May
Pennsylvania	Alfred Creigh	Wm. R. Terry	June
New York	H. F. L. Bunting	Robt. Macoy	June
Ohio	John M. Barrere	Jno. D. Caldwell	October
Washington	B. B. French		

SUBORDINATE COUNCILS

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Councils.	T.·. I.·. Masters.	Recorders.	Location.
Washington, No. 1	John W. Simons	M. J. Drummond	New York City.
Pennell, No. 2			No returns.
Oriental, No. 3	D. W. Fenton	Philip Pritchard	New York City.
Brooklyn, No. 4	James T. Brush	Wm. N. Puffer	Brooklyn.
Minnesota, No. 5	A. C. T. Pierson		St. Paul, Minnesota.
Excelsior, No. 6	Thos. C. Edwards	Wm. T. Reeder	Elmira.
Adelphic, No. 7	H. F. L. Bunting	J. Shove	New York City.
Genesee, No. 8	Hiram York	L. S. Thomas	Wellsville.
Eureka, No. 9	Aug. Willard	P. B. Rathbone	Greene.

CONSTITUTION

and General Regulations of the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

PREAMBLE.

We, the several Councils, now hailing from and constituting the jurisdiction of the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, for the purpose of promoting harmony and brotherly love; advancing our Order; diffusing Masonic instruction, and regulating our labors by one uniform standard, do ordain and declare the following articles to be the Constitution of this Grand Council.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

§ 1. This Grand Council shall be composed of a Grand Master (whose style is Most Puissant,) a Deputy Grand Master, Grand Illustrious Master, Grand Principal Conductor of the Works, Grand Recorder, Grand Treasurer, Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Chaplains, Grand Marshal (the style of all of whom is Right Puissant), Grand Steward and Grand Sentinel, (whose style is Puissant.) All Past Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Illustrious Masters, Grand Principal Conductors of the Work, and all Thrice Illustrious Masters, Right Illustrious Masters and Principal Conductors of the Work, for the time being, of the several Councils under its jurisdiction, with all Past Thrice Illustrious Masters of such Councils, so long as such Past Grand and subordinate officers shall remain members of any Council under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council.

§ 2. Each regular member of this Grand Council has one vote, and the acting Grand Master an additional vote, in case of an equal division; and each Council is entitled to three votes, without reference to its representatives present; and a Grand Officer, Past Grand Officer, or a Past Thrice Illustrious Master, may vote both as such and as a representative.

§ 3. Any subordinate Council, entitled to representation in this Grand Council, may appoint, as their proxy, any member of this Grand Council; provided always that no one member shall represent more than two subordinate Councils.

§ 4. The first six officers of this Grand Council shall be elected at the Annual Assembly, by ballot and by a majority of votes, and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master, and hold office during his pleasure.

§ 5. The Grand Council shall have the sole government and superintendence of the several Councils under its jurisdiction; shall have power to assign their limits, prescribe the fees for admission and settle controversies that may arise between them. It shall also have power to grant Charters to new Councils within the State of New York, or in any other State or Territory unoccupied by a Grand Council.

§ 6. The Grand Master has power to convene any Council within this jurisdiction, to preside therein, to inspect their proceedings and require their conformity to Masonic rules; he may require the attendance of, and information from, any Grand Officer, respecting his office; he may make Royal and Select Masters at sight, in a Council, and may, by written dispensation, delegate this power to the Thrice Illustrious Master of a Council; he may grant dispensations for new Councils, on proper application, when the Grand Council is not in session; and during the recess of the Grand Council, may exercise all its executive functions.

§ 7. In case of the death, absence, or inability of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Illustrious Master, and Grand Principal Conductor of the Works, will, in succession, succeed to his prerogatives and duties for all purposes.

§ 8. It shall be the duty of the Grand Recorder:

1. To record the transactions of the Grand Council;

2. To register the members of Councils under this jurisdiction, returned to him for that purpose with the particulars set forth in such returns;

3. To receive, duly file, and safely keep all papers and documents of the Grand Council;

4. To sign and certify all instruments from the Grand Council;

5. To prepare for the Annual Assembly a correct list of the officers, past officers, and members of the Grand Council entitled to vote, together with the names and numbers of all subordinate Councils entitled to representation in this Grand Council;

6. To receive and keep a proper account of all moneys belonging to the Grand Council and pay over the same, without delay, to the Grand Treasurer;

7. To report annually to the Grand Council the amount of moneys received by him, by items, and the specific sources from which it was received; also the Councils that have neglected to render proper returns of their elections, members, and dues, and such general information as to the state of the Councils as may be proper for the information or action of the Grand Council;

8. To conduct the correspondence of the Grand Council, under the direction of the Grand Master and in a Masonic manner;

9. To attend, with all necessary writings, papers and documents under his control, on all assemblies of the Grand Council, on the requisition of the acting Grand Master; and also, to attend upon the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master, on Masonic business, when required;

10. To transmit to the several Grand Councils, in correspondence with this Grand Council, a certificate of the election of the Grand Officers, immediately thereafter, containing their signature respectively, and authenticated under his hand and the seal of the Grand Council, with a request for a similar document from each of said Grand Councils; and

11. To attend to all such other matters and duties as, by Masonic usage, appertain to his office.

§ 9. It shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer:

1. To take charge of all the funds, property, securities and vouchers of the Grand Council;

2. To pay all orders duly drawn and attested, under general regulations or special directions of the Grand Council;

3. To attend on the Grand Council or its presiding officer when required, with the books and all necessary documents, relating to his office; and to attend, when required, the meeting of any Committee whose duty it may be to act in relation to the fiscal affairs of the Grand Council;

4. To report annually to the Grand Council the amount of his receipts and expenditures, by items, and from whom received, and to whom paid; and the amount of securities in his hands, for funds invested by the Trustees;

5. To execute and file with the Grand Recorder an official bond, with two or more sufficient sureties, to be approved by the Grand Master, conditioned that he will pay or deliver on demand, to the Grand Council, or to his successor in office, all funds and property of the Grand Council that shall come into his possession as Grand Treasurer; and

6. To pay and deliver, at the expiration of his term of office, to his successor, or such person as shall be designated by the Grand Council, all moneys, securities, evidences of debt, books, writings and property of the Grand Council under his control, with all proper assignments, when necessary.

§ 10. It shall be the duty of the Grand Officers whose duties have not been hereinbefore specifically set forth, to discharge such functions, as by ancient usage, pertain to their office.

§ 11. The Annual Assembly of the Grand Council, shall be held on the Monday preceding the first Tuesday in June, in the city of New York; but a Special Assembly may be called, whenever the Grand Master, or any three of the other Grand Officers may deem it necessary, and also whenever it shall be required by a majority of the Councils under this jurisdiction, provided such requisition be made in writing to the Grand Master or his Deputy.

§ 12. It shall be the duty of the Grand Master, as soon after his installation as may be practicable, to appoint a committee of three, to be called the Finance Committee, whose duty it shall be to superintend the financial concerns of the Grand Council, to audit all bills against it, and to certify them by their signatures, when correct, and to report at the Annual Assembly, or whenever required by the Grand Council.

§ 13. The Grand Master shall appoint, at the Annual Assembly, as soon after his installation as my be practicable, a Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be to attend the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council, and shall be a member thereof, and shall, during the session, exhibit to the members the standard work, which is approved and determined by the Grand Council, for the practice of the Councils under its jurisdiction. It shall also be his duty to impart said Lectures to the said Councils, or to Companions authorized to receive them, whenever he shall be invited so to do, and may receive such compensation therefor as may be fixed by the Grand Council before his appointment, and which compensation shall not be changed during his continuance in office. He shall make an annual report of the state of proficiency of the Councils he may visit.

§ 14. The Grand Recorder, Grand Treasurer and Grand Sentinel, shall receive such compensation as this Grand Council may, from time to time, determine upon.

§ 15. The revenues of this Grand Council shall be derived from the following sources:

For every Charter or Warrant	$30.00
For every Dispensation to form a new Council,	20.00
And if a Charter or Warrant is afterward granted the additional sum of	10.00
For every Dispensation to confer the Degrees at sight	1.00
For every other Dispensation	.50
For affixing the seal to every Grand Council Diploma	.50
For every Companion received and greeted in a Subordinate Council	.25
For adjoining fee of every Select Master	.25
Every Council shall pay for each of its members, annually	.25
For registry fee of every Select Master	.25

§ 16. Every Council shall be accountable to the Grand Council for the dues of each of its members embraced in its returns.

§ 17. The management of the permanent funds is vested in a Board of Trustees, denominated, the "Trustees of the Permanent Fund," whose duty it shall be, to take the best measures for the security and increase of said funds, and of all the invested funds of this Grand Council, and to invest from time to time, as a majority may decide upon, all money which shall come into the hands of the Grand Treasurer, after paying the necessary current expenses, and leaving in his hands such sum or sums for contingent purposes as the Grand Council may, from time to time, direct. The said Trustees shall deposit in the hands of the Grand Treasurer the securities and vouchers of the said invested funds, and shall not have the power to transfer, sell, dispose of, or appropriate any part of the invested or permanent fund, without a vote of the Grand Council, at its Annual Assembly. Said Board of Trustees shall consist of three members of the Grand Council, and shall be elected annually at the Annual Assembly, by ballot (unless it be unanimously resolved at the time to take the vote by show of hands,) and by a majority of votes.

§ 18. There shall not be a greater number of Councils established in the State than there are Royal Arch Chapters, nor more than one Council within the jurisdiction of each Chapter.

§ 19. Any Council neglecting or refusing to make returns and pay dues for more than one year, shall be punished by the forfeiture of their warrant, and only restored by paying all back dues, and offering sufficient apology for violation of the Constitutional regulations of this Grand Council.

§ 20. All governmental powers, whether executive, legislative, or judicial, not expressly delegated by the Grand Council, are inherent in and reserved to it, as the Supreme governing Body.

ARTICLE II.

REGULATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS.

§ 1. A Council of Royal and Select Masters shall consist of a Thrice Illustrious Master, Right Illustrious Master, Principal Conductor of the Works, Recorder, Treasurer, Captain of the Guard, Conductor, Steward and Sentinel, and as many members as may be convenient, congregating and working by virtue of a warrant held under the Grand Council, and at the place designated in the warrant, or by the Grand Council.

§ 2. No Council of Royal and Select Masters in this State shall be considered legal, unless they have a charter or dispensation from this Grand Council, or a dispensation from the Grand Master; and Masonic communication is hereby forbidden between any Council, under this jurisdiction, or any member thereof, and any Council or Assemblage that may be working without such charter or dispensation, or with any of the individual members of such illegal Council or Assemblage, or with any Companion received or greeted therein, until such Council or Councils, person or persons, shall have been regularly healed.

§ 3. The powers and privileges of a Subordinate Council are such as are defined in its warrant by this Constitution or by the Ancient Landmarks.

§ 4. No Warrant of a Council can be forfeited except upon charges regularly made in the Grand Council, at the Annual Assembly, of which due notice shall be given the Council, and an opportunity of being heard in defence, and then only for disobedience to this Constitution, ceasing to meet for one year, or more, or for contumacy to the authority of the Grand Master or Grand Council; but a warrant may be suspended by the Grand Council or Grand Master at any time, upon proper cause; which suspension shall not extend beyond the Annual Assembly.

§ 5. No Council under this jurisdiction shall receive or greet more than five new Companions at the same time, nor shall the degrees ever be conferred in a less interval than two weeks from the time of receiving the proposition, except by dispensation from the Grand Master, as hereinbefore provided for.

§ 6. The first five officers of a Subordinate Council hereinbefore named must be chosen annually, by ballot and by a majority

of votes, at the first regular meeting in December of each year, and must be installed on or before the next stated Assembly thereafter.

§ 7. A Council may fill vacancies in office, except those of Thrice Illustrious Master, Right Illustrious Master and Principal Conductor of the Works, at any stated Assembly, upon notice to the members; but in case of vacancy in the offices in this section mentioned, an election can be held by virtue of a dispensation from the Grand Master, which is to be applied for by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, and is to be so certified by the Recorder.

§ 8. The Thrice Illustrious Master shall not be responsible for his official acts, or otherwise, to the Council over which he presides, but shall be at all times subject to discipline from the Grand Council or Acting Grand Master,

§ 9. It shall be the duty of a Recorder of a Council:

1. To record the proceedings of the Council, under the direction of the presiding officer, which shall be read and approved by the Council before it is closed, and such proceedings shall be submitted to the Grand Council whenever required.

2. To receive all moneys paid into the Council and pay the same to the Treasurer.

3. To transmit, immediately after every election, a certificate thereof to the Grand Recorder.

4. To make a full and complete return to the Grand Council, annually, (previous to the last Wednesday in May, of each year,) of all the members of the Council, in the form hereafter mentioned in section 13.

5. To certify and affix the seal of the Council to all returns and certificates of election rendered to the Grand Council; and

6. To attest the official signature of the Thrice Illustrious Master to all other Masonic documents, when necessary.

§ 10. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of a Council:

1. To receive all moneys paid into the Council from the hands of the Recorder.

2. To keep a just and correct account thereof; and

3. To pay them out by direction of the presiding officer and consent of the Council.

§ 11. A Council has full power and authority to enact By-Laws for its own government not inconsistent with this Constitution.

§ 12. No Council under this jurisdiction shall confer the degrees for a less sum than ten dollars.

§ 13. The returns to the Grand Council shall contain the following items, viz:

1. Council number of each Companion.
2. Name.
3. Age.
4. Occupation.
5. Birth-place.
6. Residence.
7. Time of receiving the Degrees.
8. Time of Adjoining.
9. Lodge.
10. Chapter.
11. Council in which degrees were received.
12. Connection dissolved, when and by what.
13. Dues, viz: Reception fees, Adjoining fees, Registry fees, and Quarterly dues.

§ 14. This Grand Council is competent at any time to alter or amend this Constitution, on the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present at an Annual Assembly; provided the proposed alteration shall have been submitted in writing at one Annual Assembly, and laid over until the next for consideration, unless such proposition should be unanimously concurred in, and in that case it may be adopted at once.

§ 15. No general regulation shall be adopted inconsistent with this Constitution; and all former written Constitutions and General Regulations heretofore made and adopted, are hereby repealed.

FORM OF RETURN OF ELECTION.

The Certificate of Election should be in the following form, and must be filed in the office of the Grand Recorder, before the elected officers of the Subordinate Councils can be recognized as members of the Grand Council.

Be it known, That on the.....day of.....A. Dep. 28—, at a regular Assembly of .....Council, No.....Comp..... was elected T. I. Master; Comp.....R. I. Master, and Comp .....Principal Conductor of the Works, for the ensuing year, and that the said officers have been duly installed.

In Testimony whereof, we, the members of said Council, have caused the seal thereof to be hereunto affixed, and our Recorder to sign the same.

..... Recorder.

[L. S.]

THE PROXY

of the Subordinate Councils should be in the following form, viz:

At a regular Assembly of.....Council, No. ...., held on the ....day of .... A. Dep. 28—.

Resolved, That our Comp. ....., (Present or Past Grand Officer, Present or Past T. I. Master, as the case may be) be, and he is hereby appointed Proxy, to represent this Council in the Grand Council of the State of New York, and he is fully empowered to act in our behalf in all the transactions of the Grand Council as effectually as if we ourselves were personally present.

All of which we have caused to be certified by our first three officers, and the seal of our said Council to be affixed.

———, T. I. Master.

Attest. ———, R. I. Master.

———Recorder. ———, P. C. of the W.

[L. S.]

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL

of the State of New York for 1855-1856.

Most Puissant Grand Master..... .....J. B. Yates Sommers.

Right Puissant Deputy Grand Master.....H. F. L. Bunting.

Right Puissant Grand Illustrious Master.....John J. Tindale.

Right Puissant Grand Principal
Conductor of the Works:.....N. O. Benjamin.

Right Puissant Grand Captain of the Guard..Thomas O. Edwards.

Right Puissant Grand Marshal.....John W. Simons

Right Puissant Grand Recorder.....Robert Macoy.

Right Puissant Grand Treasurer.....D. S. Sinclair.

Right Puissant Grand Chaplain.....Philip Pritchard.

Puissant Grand Steward. .....Bradley Parker.

Puissant Grand Sentinel.....George Dowding.

Grand Lecturer, M. J. Drummond, Most Puissant Past Grand Master.

PROCEEDINGS

of the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, at its Annual Assembly, commencing June 3rd, 1857.

GRAND COUNCIL

Annual Assembly.

Grand Council Room, Cor. Grand and Centre Streets, Wednesday, June 3rd, 8 o'clock, P. M., A. Dep., 2857.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, convened in Annual Assembly in the city of New York, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the last Annual Assembly, on Wednesday, June 3rd, A. D. 1857. A.:. Dep.:. 2857. Present:

M. P. H. F. L. Bunting.....Grand Master.
R. P. Thos. C. Edwards.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. John J. Tindale as....Grand Illustrious Master.
R. P. David Wagstaff....Grand P. C. of the Works.
R. I. Josiah Shove as.....Grand Recorder.
I. W. T. Marvin as.....Grand Treasurer.
R. P. John W. Simons..Grand Captain of the Guard.
R. P. Philip Pritchard... ....Grand Marshal.
P Bradley Parker.....Grand Chaplain.
P. S. B. Tobey, jr.....Grand Steward.
P. George Dowding..... ....Grand Sentinel.

And the following Past Grand Officers:

M. P. J. B. Yates Sommers.....P. G. M.
P. M. J. Drummond.....P. G. M.
R. P. N. O. Benjamin.....P. G. P. C. of the W.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

COUNCILS.	REPRESENTATIVES.
4. Brooklyn	Bradley Parker, Master.
6. Excelsior	Thos. C. Edwards, Master.
7. Adelphic	Officers.
8. Eureka	Aug. Willard, Master.

The Grand Council was opened in ample form by the M. P. Grand Master. On motion, R. I. Comp. J. Shove was appointed Grand Recorder, *pro tem.*

R. P. Comp. N. O. Benjamin offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That all Companion Select Masters in good standing in the Order, be invited to take seats, as visitors, in this Grand Council, during the Annual Session. Which was adopted.

The M. P. Grand Master then presented his annual address, which was on motion of M. P. Comp. J. B. Y. Sommers, ordered to be spread at length upon the minutes, and referred to a committee of three to apportion the various subjects therein treated of to appropriate committees.

Companions of the Grand Council:

The revolving months have again brought us to our annual gathering, and once more are we met in Grand Assembly, to grasp the fraternal hand of Masonic greeting; to give an account of our stewardship since our last parting, to deliberate upon matters of interest to our beloved Order, and to wish each other, "Godspeed" in our noble and glorious work.

Since our last Annual Assembly, Companions, we have had much cause to be thankful to an ever-watchful and kind Providence, which has, as individuals, preserved us in health, and temporal prosperity; and, as a grand body, permitted us to take a foremost rank among the Select Masons of our Union.

May we never be unmindful of the benefits thus showered upon us by our Supreme Grand Master, but, with a grateful remembrance of them, endeavor so to perform our various duties to him, each other, and ourselves, that the labors of this Assembly may be not only pleasant but profitable; and that, when at the call of my successor, we again separate, we may receive and deserve the approbation of our constituents, and have the satisfaction of knowing that we have done our duty, our whole duty, and nothing but our duty to the Order.

I have but little to report to you, as your Grand Master, which is not already perfectly familiar to you all. Peace and good will reign throughout our Masonic jurisdiction, and with but a single exception, nothing has occurred to mar or impair it. In accordance with the vote passed at your last Annual Assembly, and which you will find in the printed proceedings at page 52. I have made many and strenuous efforts to obtain from Minnesota Council, No. 5, a statement of their condition, together with the proper returns to this body, but have entirely failed in accomplishing either result.

On the 6th day of April last, I issued an official demand under my hand and private seal, requiring the said Council to make the

necessary returns to this grand body on or before the first day of May, then next ensuing. No attention having been paid to this demand, on the eighteenth day of May last, I ordered the presiding officer of said Council to deliver up to me, as your Grand Master, its properties and warrant, which order has likewise been utterly disregarded.

Annexed hereto, and marked "Exhibit A" is a copy of the said several orders, and to which I respectfully call the attention of this Grand body.

On the third day of March last I received an informal petition from Companion John W. Hunt, of Madison, in the State of Wisconsin, for a dispensation to open and form a new Council, to be located at Madison, aforesaid.

Although I have not felt authorized to grant the dispensation asked for by Companion Hunt, I have had some pleasant correspondence with him on the subject, and herewith submit his petition, and correspondence growing out of the same, to this Grand Council, for such action in the premises as may be deemed proper.

I would also call your attention to the condition of Oriental Council, No. 3, and would suggest that a Committee be appointed to examine into its affairs, and report to this body at this Assembly the result of their investigations.

It seems to me but proper, Companions, that some steps should be taken, during this Assembly, in view of the proposed union of the various conflicting interests of this Masonic jurisdiction, to enable those Councils which may have heretofore become clandestine, to be received back in our fraternal arms, on petition or otherwise, as to you may seem expedient and just.

Permit me, Companions of the Grand Council, before closing this Communication, to return you my grateful thanks for the honor conferred upon me by electing me to fill the important and dignified position of your presiding officer. I shall ever regard it as one of the crowning distinctions of my Masonic life.

And now, Companions, to our Supreme Grand Master, I commend you, as individuals and as a body, trusting that our deliberations and actions may tend to his glory and our advancement in knowledge and virtue; so that, when we are called again to part, we may have the happy consciousness of knowing that our labors have not been altogether in vain, but that we have added somewhat to the beauty and strength of that temple whose foundation was laid in eternity.

HENRY F. L. BUNTING,

New York, June 3rd, 1857. Grand Master.

EXHIBIT A.

Office of the M. P. Grand Master of R. and S. Masters of the State of New York.

June 18th, A. Dep. 2856.

To the Th. Illus. Master of Minnesota Council, No. 5.

T. Ill and Dear Companion:—At the last Annual Assembly of the M. P. Grand Council of the State of New York the following resolution was unanimously adopted, viz:

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Master be empowered to inquire into the matter of Minnesota Council, No. 5, and to demand of its presiding officer a statement of its affairs, and that a return be immediately made to this Grand Council, or that its warrant and properties be surrendered, until the next Annual Assembly of this body; and it was further

"*Resolved*, That the M. P. Grand Master have full power to act in the premises as to him shall seem meet and proper."

In accordance with the above resolutions it becomes my duty as Grand Master, to demand that your said Council immediately, and before the first day of September next, return to the R. P. Grand Recorder, Robert Macoy, No. 29 Beekman street, New York city, the fee for your charter (twenty-five-dollars) which has never been paid, together with the proper returns for your said Council, in accordance with Section 15, Article 1, of the Constitution.

Fraternally yours,

HENRY F. L. BUNTING, Grand Master.

A. T. C. Pierson, G. M. of Masons, St. Paul, Minnesota.

New York, April 6th, A. Dep. 2857.

A. T. C. Pierson, Esq.,

T. Ill. and Dear Companion:

At the last Annual Assembly of the M. P. Grand Council it was

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Master be empowered to inquire into the matter of Minnesota Council, No. 5, and to demand of its presiding officer a statement of its affairs and that a return be immediately made to this Grand Council, or that its warrant and properties be surrendered, until the next Annual Assembly of this body, and it was further

"*Resolved,* That the M. P. Grand Master have full power to act in the premises as to him shall seem meet and proper."

In accordance with the above instructions and with my duty in the premises, you are hereby notified to send a properly authenticated return of Minnesota Council, No. 5, to the R. P. Grand Recorder, Robert Macoy, on or before the first day of May next; in default of which I shall be obliged to demand the properties and warrant of said Council.

Very truly and fraternally yours,

HENRY F. L. BUNTING, Grand Master.

New York, May 18th, 1857.

A. T. C. Pierson, Esq.

Dear Sir and Comp.—Having failed to comply with my requisition of April 6th, it becomes my duty as Grand Master to demand of you the warrant and properties of Minnesota Council, No. 5.

Fraternally yours,

H. F. L. BUNTING, Grand Master.

Letter from John W. Hunt to R. P. Robert Macoy.

Madison, March 3rd, 1857.

Robert Macoy,

Dear Sir:—Several Companions want to receive the Council degrees, and we have nearly enough here to establish a Council; can not you contrive some way for us to give them. Let me hear from you soon.

J. W. HUNT.

New York, March 28th, 1857.

John W. Hunt, Esq.

Dear Sir and Companion.—Yours of the 3rd inst. has been handed to me by R. P. Companion Robert Macoy.

I do not see how I can grant you a dispensation to form and open a new Council, without an application therefor from nine regular Royal and Select Masters.

I would suggest that you send the requisite number of Companions to the nearest Council for the degrees, and that you then make application to me for a dispensation, in the usual manner. The ordinary forms being complied with, it will give me great pleasure to add another star to our galaxy.

Very truly and fraternally yours,

H. F. L. BUNTING, Grand Master.

Madison, 8th April, 1857.

Henry F. L. Bunting, New York City:—

My Worthy Brother.—Your favor of the 28th ult. is received, and in answer, I have to say that there are not nine regular Royal and Select Masters in this place, and I doubt if there are in the State.

There are several here who have received the degrees but not in any manner that I can recognize them as such, having, myself, received them from your jurisdiction.

Myself, C. T. Flowers, of Columbus, Ohio; Wm. A. Kains, of Indianapolis, and David Holt have received these degrees in regular Councils of Royal and Select Masters, of which there are none in the State, and I doubt if there are any in Chicago. It is, therefore, impossible to get the requisite number to sign a petition, and the question remains: "Is there not some other manner by which another star can be added to our galaxy." To solve this, satisfactorily to my own mind, requires an answer to two other questions; and first: Has not the M. P. G. M. the power, warrant and authority to make Royal and Select Masters at sight and pleasure? Second: If he possesses this authority, cannot he vest it in a deputy for a certain district, or territory of country, under suitable regulations and restrictions?

These questions have occurred to my own mind, and may be worthy of your consideration; should they be, and should they be regarded affirmatively, I think that a "Western Star" can be added to our galaxy, under very flattering prospects.

Truly and fraternally,

JOHN W. HUNT.

M. P. Comp. J. B. Y. Sommers and R. P. Comps. Thomas C. Edwards and David Wagstaff were appointed the Committee on said address.

The M. P. Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees:

On Credentials and Returns:—P. Bradley Parker, R. P. Philip Pritchard, and R. P. N. O. Benjamin.

On Finance:—R. P. Thos. C. Edwards, R. P. David Wagstaff, and R. P. John J. Tindale.

On Grievances:—I. Walter T. Marvin, T. I. S. B. Tobey, Jr., and Th. I. Augustus Willard.

On Charters and Dispensations:—M. P. J. B. Y. Sommers, R. P. John W. Simons, and R. P. J. T. Tindale.

The Grand Recorder presented the following report, which was, on motion, referred to the Finance Committee.

To the M. P. Grand Council of the State of New York:

The Grand Recorder has the honor to submit herewith his annual report. I have received since the date of my last report the following sums of money, which were appended to the published proceedings of last year, under the title of "Moneys received during the session by the Grand Recorder, from the following sources."

Washington Council, No. 1	$10.50
Oriental Council, No. 3	11.68
Brooklyn Council, No. 4	10.50
Excelsior Council, No. 6	11.25
Adelphic Council, U. D	18.13
Eureka Council, U. D	7.63
Genesee Council, U. D	15.00
	$84.69

Which has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, and his receipt taken therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT MACOY, Grand Recorder.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following, as his annual report:

New York, June 3rd, 1857.

Report of the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Council of the State of New York:

Balance on hand, as per last report.....		$41.69
June 3rd, received of Grand Recorder.....		8.00
June 5th, received of Grand Recorder.....		84.69
		$134.38
June 5th, 1856. Paid Draft.....	$127.97	
June 5th, 1856. Paid Draft.....	4.00	
		131.97
Balance on hand.....		$2.41

D. S. SINCLAIR, Grand Treasurer.

Which was, on motion, referred to the Finance Committee.

M. P. Comp. Sommers presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the election of officers be made the special order for half-past nine o'clock this evening. Which was adopted.

P. Comp. Parker, from the Committee on Returns, presented the following report:

The Committee on Returns beg leave to report, that four Councils have made returns and paid dues, as follows:

Brooklyn Council, No. 4.....	$11.00
Excelsior Council, No. 6.....	7.38
Adelphic Council, No. 7.....	15.60
Eureka Council, No. 8.....	6.10
Total.....	$40.68

All of which returns they find, upon examination, to be correct.

Bradley Parker,
Philip Pritchard, } Committee.
N. O. Benjamin,

Which was, on motion, received and ordered on file.

The Committee to whom was referred the address of the M. P. Grand Master, to apportion the several subjects therein treated of, presented the following report:

That so much of said Address as refers to Minnesota Council, No. 5, be referred to the Committee on Grievances; and so much of it as refers to application of Comp. Hunt, to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

J. B. Y. Sommers,
Thos. C. Edwards, } Committee.
David Wagstaff,

I. Comp. W. T. Marvin, from the Committee on Grievances, presented the following report:

The Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred such portions of the Grand Master's address as referred to Minnesota Council, No. 5, beg leave to report: That they have examined the subject carefully, and would present the following resolution, as the result of their investigation:

Resolved, That Minnesota Council, No. 5, be allowed sixty days to make their returns and pay their dues.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. T. Marvin,
S. B. Tobey, Jr., } Committee.
Aug. Willard,

Which was, on motion, received, the Committee discharged from the further consideration of the subject, and the resolution adopted.

M. P. Comp. Sommers, from the Committee on Charters and Dispensations, presented the following report:

The Committee on Charters and Dispensations, to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's Address relating to the application of Comp. Hunt, of Wisconsin, beg leave to report the following resolution:

Resolved, That the petition of Comp. John W. Hunt be referred to the Grand Master, with power.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. B. Y. Sommers,
J. W. Simons, } Committee.
J. J. Tindale,

On motion, the report was received, the Committee discharged from further consideration of the subject, and the resolution was adopted.

M. P. Comp. Simons offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That when this Grand Council adjourn, it adjourn to meet in this place on Friday next, at 4 o'clock, P. M. Which was adopted.

The Committee appointed at the last Annual Assembly, to attend the Convention at Hartford, for the purpose of forming a General Grand Council, reported verbally, that they had attended said Convention, and that after a free interchange of sentiments among the Delegates, the Convention

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, at present, to form a General Grand Council.

On motion, the report was received and the Committee discharged.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence not being prepared to report, on motion of R. P. Comp. Edwards they were requested to report at the adjourned meeting Friday.

R. P. Comp. Edwards offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That Grand Recorder be directed to call the attention of Genesee Council, No. 9, to Art. I, Sec. 19, of the Constitution. Which was, on motion, adopted.

R. P. Comp. Edwards, offered the following amendment to the Constitution.

Art. II, Sec. 12. Strike out the word "ten" and insert "five." Which was, on motion of R. P. Comp. Tindale, laid on the table until Friday.

The hour having arrived for the special order, it being the election of officers of the Grand Council, the Grand Master appointed T. I. Comp. S. B. Tobey, Jr., and I. Comp. W. T. Marvin, tellers.

R. P. Comp. John J. Tindale was elected..Grand Master.
R. P. Comp. Thos. C. Edwards re-elected.D. Gr. Master.
R. P. Comp. N. O. Benjamin was elected..Gr. Ill. Master.
T. I. Comp. Augustus Willard was elected.G. P. C. of W.
R. I. Comp. Josiah Shove was elected....Gr. Recorder.
R. P. Comp. John W. Simons was elected..Gr. Treasurer.
M. P. Comp. J. B. Y. Sommers was elected..
M. P. Comp. H. F. L. Bunting was elected...
M. P. Comp. M. J. Drummond was elected..
} Trustees for the ensuing year.

On motion of R. I. Comp. Shove, the Finance Committee were requested to examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer, and report at the adjourned meeting.

The Grand Council then took a recess until Friday, at 4 o'clock, P. M.

GRAND COUNCIL.

Friday, June 5th, 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Council resumed its session.

Present—M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting, G. M., Officers and representatives as before.

The Finance Committee reported that they had examined the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, and found the same correct.

They also asked leave to make a supplemental report to the Grand Master, which was, on motion, granted.

R. P. Comp. John W. Simons, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the following report, which, on motion of R. P Comp. Edwards, was received and ordered spread upon the minutes.

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg, in presenting their second report, to offer their congratulations to this Grand Body, that the great prosperity attending the other branches of our Order is gradually extending to this. Though our progress is by no means rapid, there are various reasons why we may be reasonably satisfied with what has already been accomplished, remembering that the prejudices and opinions of men are not to be swept away with a dash of the pen, or any great purpose accomplished without long and earnest effort. The signs of the future are favorable, and we feel the assurance that with time, patience and perseverance, we shall yet overcome all obstacles, and assume our proper position as one of the "Estates of Masonry."

We have received, during the year, the Proceedings of the Grand Councils of Maine, Vermont, Illinois, Kentucky, Alabama, and Texas.

In our report of last year, we referred to what appeared to us the irregular organization of the Grand Council of Maine; we find

now, from the pamphlet before us, that the proceedings in the preliminary convention were not fully reported, and that their action in establishing a Grand Council was in accordance with the usual precedents; we therefore withdraw our former remarks, and bid the Grand Council of Maine welcome to our ranks. The Proceedings of the Grand Councils appear to be confined exclusively to mere local business, and therefore do not seem to admit of extended notice. As far as your Committee are able to judge, there does not appear any desire on the part of our sister Grand Councils to commune with each other, or to adopt any measure tending to give the beautiful degrees of our Order anything but a local existence, each community, as it were, isolating itself from the rest, and content to move within its own circle, without regard to its neighbors. This feeling may arise from lack of experience or the recent formation of such Bodies, but until it is superceded by a national spirit and determination there can be but little hope for usefulness in Select Masonry. We trust the present exclusiveness of the Order may pass away and that its votaries in every part of the Union will unite in establishing it on a firm and well cemented basis, as the summit and perfection of Ancient Craft Masonry.

We extend to our sister Grand Councils our most cordial wishes for their prosperity, and assure them of our willingness and anxiety to co-operate in any measure calculated to extend the sphere of our usefulness, elevate the standing, and draw closer the bonds that should unite us.

Respectfully submitted,

Jno. W. Simons,

N. O. Benjamin.

Washington Council, No. 1, having failed to make its returns or to pay dues to this Grand Council as required by the Constitution, on motion of I. Comp. Marvin, the whole subject was referred to the Grand Master, with power.

Oriental Council, No. 3, having also failed to make returns or pay dues, to this Grand Council, on motion of M. P. Comp. Sommers, the whole matter was laid over until the next Annual Assembly.

M. P Comp. J. B. Y. Sommers offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council be held in the City of New York, on the Wednesday succeeding the first Tuesday in June, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M. Which was adopted.

T. I. Comp. Willard offered the following resolution:

"*Resolved,* That the members of the Committee of this Grand Council, who were appointed to attend at Hartford, last September, for the purpose of assisting in the organization of a General Grand Council, and who were not otherwise paid, be allowed the amount of their personal expenses, out of any funds of this Grand Council not otherwise appropriated.

M. P. Comp. Sommers, offered the following amendment to the Constitution: Art. II, Sec. 2. After the words, Grand Master, insert the words, "or his Deputy." Which was unanimously adopted.

Bill of R. P. Comp. Macoy, for printing Transactions, etc., $78.70, was read and referred to the Finance Committee and if found correct, ordered paid.

R. I. Comp. Shove offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That five hundred copies of the tranactions of this Grand Council be printed, and that twenty copies thereof be sent to each Council under this jurisdiction, one to each Chapter in the State, and one to each Grand Council in the United States.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed into their respective offices by M. P Comp. J. B. Y. Sommers, P. Grand Master.

The Grand Master made the following appointments:

T. I. Hiram York.....Grand Captain of the Guard.
R. P. Bradley Parker.....Grand Marshal.
P. S. B. Tobey, Jr.....Grand Chaplain.
I. W. T. Marvin.....Grand Steward.
P. Sewall Fisk..... .....Grand Sentinel.
Sewall Fisk.....Grand Lecturer.

Committee on Foreign Corespondence:

R. P. John W. Simons, R. P. Nathan O. Benjamin. R. P, Augustus Willard.

There being no further business before the body, the Grand Council was closed in Ample form.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

RECEIPTS.

Dues, Brooklyn Council, No. 4	$11.00
Dues, Excelsior Council, No. 6	7.38
Dues, Adelphic Council, No. 7	15.60
Dues, Eureka Council, No. 8	6.10
Total	$40.08

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

M. P. John J. Tindale, Grand Master.....New York.

R. P. Thomas C. Edwards, Dep. Grand Master...Elmira.

R. P. Nathan O. Benjamin, Ill. Master.....New York.

R. P. Augustus Willard, Gr. P. C. of the W.....Greene.

R. P. Josiah Shove, Gr. Recorder.....New York.

R. P. John W. Simons, Grand Treasurer.....New York.

R. P. Hiram York, Gr. C. of the Guard.....Wellsville.

R. P. Bradley Parker, Grand Marshal.....Brooklyn.

R. P. S. B. Tobey, Jr., Grand Chaplain.....New York.

P. Walter T. Marvin, Grand Steward....New York.

P Sewall Fisk, Grand Sentinel.....New York.

Grand Lecturer, Sewall T. Fisk.....New York.

Gd. Recorder, J Shove..309 Tenth St., New York.

SUBORDINATE COUNCILS

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of the State of New York

Councils.	T.·. I.·. Masters.	Recorders.	Location.
Washington, No. 1	John W. Simons	M. J. Drummond	New York City
Pennell, No. 2			No returns.
Oriental, No. 3			No returns.
Brooklyn, No. 4	Bradley Parker	Richard Shay	Brooklyn.
Minnesota, No. 5			No returns.
Excelsior, No. 6	Thomas C. Edwards	Wm. T. Reeder	Elmira.
Adelphic, No. 7	S. B. Tobey, Jr	Jno. J. Tindale	New York City.
Eureka, No. 8	Aug. Willard	P. B. Rathbone	Greene.
Genesee, No. 9	Hiram York	L. S. Thomas	Wellsville.

GRAND COUNCILS

IN THE UNITED STATES.

Grand Councils.	Grand Masters.	Grand Recorders.	Time of Meeting.
Alabama	J. M'Caleb Wiley.		December
Connecticut	Alex. Hamilton	E. G. Storer	May
Illinois	Jas. H. Hibbard	H. G. Reynolds	September
Kentucky	Philip Swigert	A. G. Hodges	October
Maine	R. P Dunlap.	Ira Berry	May
Vermont	G. Washburn	J. B. Hollenbeck	August
Georgia	Philip T. Schley	B. B. Russell	April
Indiana	Wm. Hacker	Francis King	May
Pennsylvania	Alfred Creigh	Wm. R. Terry	June
New York	John J. Tindale	J. Shove	June
Ohio	John M. Barrere	Jno. D. Caldwell	October
Washington	B. B. French		

PROCEEDINGS

of the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, at its

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

commencing June 2d 1858.

ERRATUM.

In the printed proceedings of the M. P. Grand Council for 1857, the following omission was made:—

"The amendment to the Constitution offered by R. P. Comp. Edwards was taken up and adopted."

GRAND COUNCIL.

Annual Assembly.

Grand Council Room, Cor. Grand and Centre Sts., Wednesday, June 2d, 7.30 P. M., A. D. 1858, A. Dep. 2858.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, convened in Annual Assembly in the City of New York, in accordance with a resolution, adopted at the last Annual Assembly, on Wednesday, June 2d, A. D. 1858, A. Dep. 2858. Present:

M. P John J. Tindale.....Grand Master.
R. P. Thomas C. Edwards....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. Nathan O. Benjamin.Grand Illustrious Master.
R. P. Augustus Willard...Grand P. C. of the Works.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
R. I. Royal G. Millard as.....Grand Treasurer.
T. I. J. B. Harris as....Grand Captain of the Guard.
R. P. Bradley Parker.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. S. B. Tobey, Jr.....Grand Chaplain.
I. S. D. Lundy as.....Grand Steward
P. Sewall Fisk.....Grand Sentinel.

And the following Past Grand Officers:—

M. P. John B. Yates Sommers.....P. G. M.
M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting.....P. G. M.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:—

Brooklyn .....No. 4.
Excelsior .....No. 6.
Adelphic .....No. 7.
Eureka .....No. 8.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form by the M. P. Grand Master.

On motion of R. P. Comp. Benjamin, it was

Resolved, That all Companion Select Masters in good standing in the Order be invited to take seats as visitors in this Grand Council.

On motion of R.P. Comp. Edwards, the reading of the minutes of the last Annual Assembly was dispensed with.

On motion, the Recorder was directed to insert an erratum in the printed proceedings of the present year, stating that there was an omission made in the printed copy of the proceedings of last year, to the effect that the amendment offered to the Constitution by R. P. Comp. Edwards was taken up and adopted.

The M. P. Grand Master then presented his Annual Address, which was, on motion of R. P. Thomas C. Edwards, ordered to be spread at length upon the minutes, and referred to a committee of three to apportion the various subjects, therein treated of, to appropriate committees.

THE ADDRESS.

Beloved Companions:

Another year has passed away since we had the pleasure of assembling in Grand Council, and taking each other by the hand as friends and brothers; and we are again permitted to meet together for the purpose of taking into consideration such matters as may be presented in connection with Royal and Select Masonry, and to take such action thereon as may seem to us best calculated to advance the interests and perpetuate the welfare of this highly important and dearly beloved branch of our Order. Under these circumstances, let us not be unmindful of our first great duty to our Supreme Grand Master, to whom we cannot be sufficiently grateful for this, among the many privileges vouchsafed to us. To Him, therefore, let us return our most fervent thanks for the manifold blessings we enjoy, and let us implore His aid in this our Annual Assembly, that our deliberations and actions may be acceptable to Him, and conducive to the well-being of our institution.

During the past year, Companions, I regret to state, that in consequence of the loss of a revered father and a beloved wife, both of whom were swept away by that fell destroyer, Death, within a few short months of each other, leaving a large family entirely to my care, and lastly, an unfavorable change in my business arrangements, I have been unable to devote that time and attention to the duties of Grand Master—to which high office through your partiality, rather that on account of any merits or qualifications I possess, I was elevated—that their importance demanded. But for any short-comings in this respect, for the reason above stated, I rely with confidence on your kind indulgence.

With regard to the matters referred to me at the last Annual Assembly, nothing new has transpired. I have received no communication from Companion John W. Hunt, of Madison, in the State of Wisconsin; and as said Companion was fully informed by my esteemed predecessor of the only conditions upon which a Dispensation could be granted to form a new Council, I presume he has been unable to comply with the requirements of the Constitution, and has abandoned the project for the present.

Minnesota Council, No. 5, has not yet made any returns or paid any dues.

Companion A. T. C. Pierson, who was appointed T. I. M. of said Council, is now in this city and will probably be present at this Assembly, and I sincerely trust he will furnish this body with a true and full statement of the affairs of said Council, to the end that a definite and satisfactory action may be had thereon during this session.

Washington Council, No. 1, remains in the same unfortunate condition it did one year ago. T. I. Companion John W. Simons and other members of said Council, assure me that they are anxious to prolong its existence, but feel unable to do so, for the lack of new material to support them in the work.

The matter of Oriental Council, No. 3, laid over at the last Assembly, I respectfully suggest, should be disposed of without delay, in order that the Companions whose names stand upon its roll may be relieved from the embarrassing position they have occupied during the last two years.

As an offset to the unfortunate situation of the above-named Councils, I congratulate the members of this body on the fact that the other Councils under its jurisdiction are in a flourishing condition. To Adelphic Council, No. 7, the only one I have had an opportunity of visiting since last June, the past year has been one of unexampled prosperity; and I take great pleasure in bearing evidence to the untiring energy and zeal manifested by the officers and members of this Council, in bringing about this happy result.

I beg leave to call the attention of this Grand body to the necessity of renewed efforts on the part of its members to secure, if possible, from the Grand Commandery, at its next conclave, not only a formal recognition of the Degrees of Royal and Select Master, but also the passage of a resolution to amend the Constitution of said Grand Body, making the possession of these Degrees, obtained in a regular Council, an indispensable requisite in all candidates for the Orders of Knighthood.

In compliance with my duty, I appointed Comp. Sewall T. Fisk, Grand Lecturer; I have had no opportunity, however, of conferring with the Companion on the subject of the work; and I respectfully suggest that suitable measures be adopted during this session to establish a uniform series of Lectures, and that the same be disseminated among the various Councils in this jurisdiction, without delay, by the Grand Lecturer.

My sincere acknowledgments are due, and I hereby tender them, to the officers and members of this Grand body for the distinguished honor they conferred on me by placing me in the exalted position of Grand Master; and I feel constrained to refer again to the unfortunate circumstances which compelled me, to a very great extent, to omit many of the duties belonging to the office; and believe me, Companions, no other considerations would have induced me to neglect them. My interest in this branch of Masonry is not only unabated, but is now stronger than ever; of which fact, in the capacity of a private member of this body, which position, with your permission, I will resume during this session, I will endeavor to give undoubted evidence.

In conclusion, beloved Companions I trust that, through the influence of the pure principles of Masonry, our deliberations during this Assembly may be characterized by brotherly love and fraternal feeling, and our actions be productive of the most beneficial results to our Order. And when we are finally called upon to separate, many of us, doubtless, for the last time on earth, may we enjoy the happy reflections consequent upon having performed our duty to the Craft, and indulge in the hope that we will meet again in the presence of Him who presides in the Supreme Grand Council above!

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN J. TINDALE, Grand Master.

The M. P. appointed as Commmittee on Address, R. P. Comps. Thomas C. Edwards and N. O. Benjamin and R. I. Comp. R. G. Millard.

The M. P. Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

On Credentials and Returns:—R. P. Bradley Parker, R. P. Josiah Shove, R. I. R. G. Millard.

On Finance:—R. P. Thos. C. Edwards, R. P. S. B. Tobey, Jr., P. W. T. Marvin.

On Grievances:—R. I. R. G. Millard, R. P. Augustus Willard, T. I. J. B. Harris.

On Charters and Dispensations:—M. P. John B. Y. Sommers, M. P. H. F. L. Bunting, R. P. N. O. Benjamin.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That when this Grand Council adjourn, it adjourn to meet at 4 o'clock to-morrow; and that a Committee be appointed to procure a room for the said adjourned meeting.

The M. P. G. M. appointed as such Committee, R. P. Comp. Benjamin, R. I. Comp. Millard, and R. P. Comp. Shove.

On motion of R. P. S. B. Tobey, Jr., the election of officers was made the special order for 4.30 o'clock, P. M. to-morrow.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, ordered spread upon the minutes, and referred to the Finance Committee:—

New York, 2d June, 1858.

The G. Council of Royal and Select Masters, State of New York.

The Grand Treasurer begs leave respectfully to report, that he has received from the late Grand Treasurer bal. in his hands..... $2.41
From the Grand Recorder..... 40.08

$42.49

That he has paid on account bill of Printing due Comp. Macoy..... 40.08

Balance on hand..... $2.41

J. W. SIMONS, Grand Treasurer.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and ordered spread at length upon the minutes:—

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully report, that during the past year they have been favored with the proceedings of Connecticut, Indiana, and Michigan. The latter Body was regularly formed on January 13th of the present year, and we cordially welcome her into the circle of the Select, with fervent wishes for her future prosperity and usefulness. In Connecticut and Indiana the Order is in a flourishing condition, as we presume it is elsewhere, though not having the documents in our possession we cannot speak by authority. The remarks of your Committee made last year would seem to apply with greater force this; yet we none the less reiterate our hearty desire that success may attend the labors of our Companions, wherever dispersed, that sooner or later they may be brought to a saving knowledge that the State of New York is still to be found on the map and within her borders there are warm hearts and ready hands to bid a fraternal welcome to the worthy and true from every part of the globe.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

John W. Simons,
N. O. Benjamin,
A. Willard.

The Grand Council then took a recess until 4 o'clock tomorrow.

Thursday, June 3rd, 1858.

The Grand Council resumed its session. Present: The M. P. Grand Master, Officers and Representatives as before.

R. P. Comp. Benjamin offered the following resolution, which was on motion received and referred to the Committee on Warrants and Dispensations.

Whereas, Washington Council, No. 1, Oriental Council, No. 3, and Minnesota Council, No. 5, have neglected or refused to make returns or pay dues for more than one year, and

Whereas, Section 19, of the Constitution, requires that Councils so refusing or neglecting to make returns and pay their dues shall be punished by the forfeiture of their warrants,—such section being mandatory in its character;

Resolved, That the charters of Washington, Oriental and Minnesota Councils are hereby declared forfeited.

The Committee on the Grand Master's Address presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and ordered spread in full upon the minutes, and the recommendations adopted:

To the Grand Council of the State of New York:

The Committee to whom was referred the able and interesting Address of the M. P. Grand Master have had the same under that consideration to which its merits entitle it, and now ask leave to submit to this Grand Body their Report, as follows:

We are pleased to learn from this Address that continued prosperity attends this branch of our beloved Order; and that the Royal and Select Degrees in Masonry are cultivated within the borders of our jurisdiction, with that interest and success to which their beauty and intimate connection with the other degrees in Craft Masonry so justly and eminently entitle them.

The Committee are pained to learn from this report of our M. P. Grand Master that, during this official year of his labors as such,he has been twice called to realize the loss of near and dear friends, in the nearest and most cherished relations that can be sustained in this life. Your Committee condole with their chief executive officer in his irreparable loss, and do not doubt he will have the earnest and sincere sympathy of his associates, the Illustrious Companions composing the officers and representatives in this Grand Council.

Much credit is due to M. P. Comp. Tindale for the zeal and ability he has ever manifested in the cultivation and correct propagation of the Royal and Select Degrees in Masonry; and we are gratified to learn of his intention to continue in well-doing, after he shall have laid aside the robes of office, and retired once more into the private ranks as a member of this Grand Body.
The Committee recommend as follows:—

First. That so much of the Address of our M. P. G. M. as relates to "Minnesota Council, No. 5," be referred to the Committee on Warrants and Dispensations.

Second. So much of said Address as relates to Oriental Council, No. 3, to the Committee on Warrants and Dispensations.

Third. That part having reference to a Recognition of Degrees, we recommend to be placed in charge of the first three officers of this Council, with instructions to use their earnest endeavors to carry out the views and wishes of our Grand Master.

Fourth. So much as relates to a "Uniform Series of Lectures," and "Uniformity of Work" to be referred to a select committee of five, with direction to report at this present Annual Assembly if practicable, and if not, to the Grand Master during the recess.

Fraternally submitted, in mystic bonds,

Thos. C. Edwards, }
N. O. Benjamin, } Committee.
R. G. Millard, }

New York, June 3d, 1858.

The hour having arrived for the special order of election of officers for the ensuing year, the Grand Master appointed R. P. Comps. Bradley Parker, and S. B. Tobey, Jr., as Tellers.

R. P. Nathan O. Benjamin was elected....Grand Master.
R. P. Thos. C. Edwards was elected....Dep. Gr. Master.
R. P. Augustus Willard was elected.....Gr. Ill. Master.
R. P. Bradley Parker was elected....Gr. P. C. of the W.
R. P. Josiah Shove was elected.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. S. B. Tobey, Jr. was elected.....Grand Treasurer.
M. P. John Tindale }
M. P. J. B. Y. Sommers } were elected.....Trustees.
M. P. H. F. Bunting }

The officers elect were then duly installed by M. P. Comp. John J. Tindale.

The M. P. Grand Master made the following appointments:

P. Walter T. Marvin.....G. C. of the G.
R. I. Royal G. Millard.....Grand Marshal.
Rev. John Gray.....Grand Chaplain.
T. I. John B. Harris.....Grand Steward.
P. George Dowding.....Grand Sentinel.
M. P. H. F. L. Bunting.....Grand Lecturer.
I. Thomas T. May.....Assistant Grand Lecturer.

As Committee on Foreign Correspondence:

M. P. John B. Yates Sommers, M. P. John J. Tindale, R. P. Augustus Willard.

On motion it was

Resolved, That when this Council adjourns, it adjourn to meet in this room to-morrow afternoon, at 4 o'clock.

The M. P. Grand Master appointed, as the Committee of five on "a uniform series of lectures," and on "uniformity of work."

M. P. John B. Y. Sommers, R. P. Thomas C. Edwards, R. P. Bradley Parker, M. P. John J. Tindale, R. P. Augustus Willard.

Bills of $24.30 and $11.77 were read and referred to the Finance Committee, and if found correct, ordered paid.

The Grand Council then took a recess until 4 o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, 4th inst., 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Council resumed its session. Present: the M. P. Grand Master, Officers and Representatives as before.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and ordered spread upon the minutes:

The Committee on Credentials and Returns beg leave to offer the following Report.

The following Councils under this jurisdiction have made returns and paid dues as follows:

Brooklyn, No. 4	$9.50
Excelsior, No. 6	7.00
Adelphic, No. 7	27.94
Eureka, No. 8	5.25
	$49.69

All which returns have been examined and found correct.

Bradley Parker,
J. Shove,
R. G. Millard, } Committee.

The Finance Committee presented their Report as follows, which was received and ordered on file:

The Finance Committee, to whom was referred bills of $24.30 and $11.77—also, the Treasurer's Report, have examined the same and find them correct, and we recommend that warrants be drawn for the amount of the above bills.

Thomas C. Edwards, }
S. B. Tobey, Jr., } Finance Committee.

On motion, the sum of five dollars was ordered paid to P. Comp. Dowding.

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations, to whom was referred the resolution offered by R. P. Comp. Benjamin, also, that portion of the Grand Master's Address relating to the same subject, presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and ordered spread upon the minutes, and the recommendations adopted:

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York:

Your Committee, to whom was referred so much of the Address of the M. P. Grand Master as relates to the condition of Washington Council, No. 1, Oriental Council, No. 3, and Minnesota Council, No. 5, and to whom was also referred the resolution of M. P. Comp. N. O. Benjamin relating thereto, and would respectfully report,

That they have made as complete and careful an investigation of the matters so referred as the time allowed and the documents presented would permit, and find from the evidence the following facts, viz:

First. That Washington Council, No. 1, has for two years last past, failed to make any returns to this Grand Council, or to offer any excuse whatever for this "breach of Masonic order." That T. Illus. Comp. John W. Simons was elected its presiding officer in December, 1856, and that no election has been since had of officers in that Council.

Second. That Oriental Council, No. 3, has also failed and neglected to make returns or to offer excuse therefor, since December, 1856, since which time there has been no assembly of the said last-mentioned Council held; and that T. Illus. Comp. D. W. Fenton was its last presiding officer, elected in December, 1855.

Third. That Minnesota Council, No. 5, has never made any returns or report to this Grand Council; and that the fee required by the Constitution for its charter or warrant was never paid into the treasury of this Grand Body. Your Committee have been informed, however, that the necessary fee was mailed to the then Grand Recorder, but that by some accident it never reached him. Your Committee beg leave, in consideration of the premises, to offer for adoption the following resolutions, viz:

Resolved, That the charter or warrant of the Oriental Council, No. 3, be, and the same is, hereby declared forfeited and withdrawn; and that the R. P. Grand Recorder be, and he is, hereby empowered to demand, in the name and on behalf of this Grand Council, the warrant and properties of said Oriental Council, No. 3, of any person or persons having possession of the same or any part thereof. Also,

Resolved, That the time for Washington Council, No. 1, and for Minnesota Council, No. 5, to make returns to this Grand Council, in accordance with the Constitution, be extended until the first day of August next ensuing. That if said last named Councils or either of them, shall fail to make returns on or before said last mentioned day, then and in that case, the M. P. Grand Master be, and he is hereby directed and empowered to declare the warrants or warrant of the said Councils or Council so neglecting to make returns as aforesaid, forfeited and withdrawn, and to make such other or further order in the premises as shall be proper and in accordance with the ancient usages of the Order.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. B. Yates Sommers,
John J. Tindale,
A. Willard,
} Commitee.

Dated, New York, June 3d, 1858.

The Committee on a Uniform Series of Lectures and on a Uniformity of Work, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and ordered spread upon the minutes:

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York:

Your Committee to whom was referred so much of the Address of the M. P. Grand Master as relates to "Uniformity of

Work" and the "Lectures of the Degrees" would respectfully report,

That they have given the subjects referred to them, so far as the time allotted them would permit, that careful attention and consideration which their importance to the Craft so imperatively demanded, and after a patient investigation of the various styles of work presented to them, would earnestly recommend that the work and lectures as given by the Grand Lecturer, Most Puissant Past Grand Master H. F. L. Bunting, be adopted as the work and lectures to be given in all the subordinate Councils of this jurisdiction.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. B. Yates Sommers,
John J. Tindale,
A. Willard,
} Committee.

Dated, New York, June 3d, 1858.

The Committee on Grievances reported that there had been no matters referred to them; and on motion, the report was received and the Committee discharged.

On motion of R. P. Comp. Shove, it was

Resolved, That three hundred copies of the transactions of this Grand Council be printed and that twenty copies thereof be sent to each Council under this jurisdiction, one to each Chapter in the State, and three to each Council in the United States.

M. P. Comp. Sommers offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council, be held in the city of New York, on the Wednesday succeeding the first Tuesday in June, at 4 o'clock, P. M.

No further business appearing, the Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

RECEIPTS.

Brooklyn Council, No. 4, dues	$9.50
Excelsior Council, No. 6, dues	7.00
Adelphic Council, No. 7, dues	27.94
Eureka Council, No. 8, dues	5.25
Adelphic Council, No. 7, dispensations	2.00
	$51.69

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

M. P. Nathan O. Benjamin, Grand Master....New York.

R. P. Thomas C. Edwards, Dep. Gr. Master....Elmira.

R. P. Augustus Willard, Gr. Ill. Master.....Greene.

R. P. Bradley Parker, Gr. P. C. of the W.....Brooklyn.

R. P. Josiah Shove, Grand Recorder.....New York.

R. P. S. B. Tobey, Jr., Grand Treasurer.....New York.

R. P. Walter T. Marvin, Gr. C. of the Guard..New York.

R. P. R. G. Millard, Gr. Marshal.....New York.

R. P. and Rev. John Gray, Gr. Chaplain.....West Point.

P. J. B. Harris, Gr. Steward.....Brooklyn.

P. George Dowding, Gr. Sentinel.....New York.

Grand Lecturer, H. F. L. Bunting.....New York.

Assistant Grand Lecturer, Thos. T. May.....Brooklyn.

Grand Recorder, J. Shove, 77 St. Mark's Pl..New York.

SUBORDINATE COUNCILS

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of the State of New York

Councils.	T.·. I.·. Masters.	Recorders.	Location.
Washington, No. 1			No returns
Brooklyn, No. 4	J. B. Harris		Brooklyn
Minnesota, No. 5			No returns
Excelsior, No. 6	Thomas C. Edwards		Elmira
Adelphic, No. 7	J. Shove	N. O. Benjamin	New York City
Eureka, No. 8			Greene
Genesee, No. 9			No returns

GRAND COUNCILS

OF THE UNITED STATES.

Grand Councils.	Grand Masters.	Grand Recorders.	Time of Meeting.
Alabama	Proceedings not received		December
Connecticut	William L. Brewer	E. G. Storer	May
Illinois	Proceedings not received		September
Kentucky	" "		October
Maine	" "		May
Vermont	" " "		August
Georgia	" " "		April
Indiana	William Hacker	Francis King	May
Pennsylvania	Proceedings not received		June
New York	N. O. Benjamin	J. Shove	June
Ohio	Proceedings not received		October
Washington	" " "		
Texas	Wm. M. Taylor	Andrew Neil	June
Michigan	N. B. Carpenter	N. P. Jacobs.	May

PROCEEDINGS

of the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York and its Annual Assembly, Commencing, June 8th, 1859.

FORM OF A PETITION FOR A NEW COUNCIL.

To the M. P. Grand Council of the State of————————.

The undersigned petitioners, being Royal and Select Masters, having the prosperity of the Fraternity at heart, and being willing to exert their best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Cryptic Masonry, respectfully represent—That they are desirous of forming a new Council in the town of———, County of ———, and State of ———, to be named——— Council, No. ———.

They therefore pray for letters of dispensation, or a Warrant of Constitution, to empower them to assemble as a legal Council, to discharge the duties of Masonry in a regular and constitutional manner, according to the original forms of the Order, and the regulations of the Grand Council.

They have nominated and do recommend Comp. A. B. to be the first Master; Comp. C. D. to be the first Dep. Master, and Comp. E. F. to be the first Principal Conductor of the Works of said Council. If the prayer of the petitioners shall be granted, they promise a strict conformity to the Constitution, Laws, and Regulations of the Grand Council.

Dated at ———————— A. Dep. 28——.

N. B.—(The above petition must be signed by not less than nine Select Masters.)

GRAND COUNCIL—ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Grand Council Room, Corner Grand and Centre Streets,

Wednesday, June 8th, 4 P. M., A. D. 1859, A. Dep. 2859.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, convened in Annual Assembly in the city of New York, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the last Annual Assembly, on Wednesday, June 8th, A. D. 1859, A. Dep. 2859. Present:

M. P. Nathan O. Benjamin.....Grand Master.
R. P. Augustus Willard....Grand Illustrious Master.
R. P. Bradley Parker.....Grand P. C. of the W.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. S. B. Tobey, Jr.....Grand Treasurer
R. P. Walter T. Marvin.....Grand C. of the G.
R. P. R. G. Millard.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. John Gray.....Grand Chaplain.
P. J. B. Harris.....Grand Steward.
P. Geo. Dowding ....Grand Sentinel.

And the following Past Grand Masters:

M. P J. B. Yates Sommers.....Past G. M.
M. P. H. F. L. Bunting.....Past G. M.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Brooklyn, No. 4,
Adelphic, No. 7,
Eureka, No. 8.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form by the M. P Grand Master.

On motion of R. P. Comp. Millard, the reading of the minutes of the last Annual Assembly was dispensed with.

On motion of R. P. Comp. Shove, it was

Resolved, That all Companion Select Masters in good standing in the Order be invited to take seats as visitors in this Grand Council.

The M. P. Grand Master then presented his Annual Address, which was, on motion of R. P. Comp. John Gray, ordered to be spread at length upon the minutes, and referred to a committee of three to apportion the various subjects therein treated of, to appropriate committees.

THE ADDRESS.

Companions:

Another year has been added to the unchanging past, and by the permission of the Grand Architect of the Universe, we are brought together again to unite our Councils in the Annual Assembly, for the advancement of the interest of our sublime degrees. A well-established precedent requires your Grand Master, at these annual reunions, to give an account of his stewardship, and to suggest such ideas as may have occurred to him calculated to promote the success of the great cause in which we are engaged.

The past year has been one of prosperity to our Order, and the pure principles of Free Masonry are, I believe, being every day better understood, both by those within and those without the vail. Our own peculiar branch of the Order has been steadily advancing in the number and quality of its votaries, and is fast taking that rank which, from the sublimity of its ritual, and the philosophy of its teachings, it is entitled to possess.

SUBORDINATE COUNCILS.

I have visited Brooklyn Council, No. 4, twice during the year: once in company with a number of the officers of this Grand Council, on which occasion I had the pleasure of installing its officers in Ample Form. This Council has been the brightest star in our constellation, and its officers have manifested a determination to make it again assume a like position.

Adelphic Council, No. 7, in this city, which I am in the habit of regularly attending, has added largely to its membership, all good men and true, many among them being among the brightest luminaries of Masonry. To it the past has been a season of unalloyed prosperity.

From our R. P. Grand Ill. M., I learn that Eureka Council, No. 8, is in a flourishing condition, and that it is doing its work in accordance with the ancient laws, usages, and customs of the Fraternity.

These are all the Councils concerning whose prosperity I have any official knowledge. In this connection I would call the attention of this Grand Council to the frequent neglect of Art. II, Sec. 9, Subdivision 3, of the Constitution, which requires the Recorder of a Council "To transmit immediately after every election a certificate thereof to the Grand Recorder."

DORMANT COUNCILS.

In accordance with the resolutions adopted by this Grand Council at its last Annual Assembly, (see page 15 of the Transactions) I, in the month of August last, issued my official edicts, (copies of which are hereunto annexed,) to the last T. Ill. Masters of Washington Council, No. 1, and Minnesota Council, No. 5, declaring their Warrants forfeited; and ordering them to deliver the same to the R. P. Grand Recorder, together with any properties of said Councils that might be in their possession. The T. I. M. of Washington Council, No. 1, states that he is unable to find the Warrant of said Council; and the T. I. M. of Minnesota Council, No. 5, has paid no attention to the order of your Grand Master.

Genesee Council, No. 9, having neglected to make returns and pay dues to this Grand Council, I ordered the Deputy Grand Master, in whose vicinity it is located, to ascertain its condition and prospects, and to report thereon to me; but as yet, I have heard nothing from him on the subject. Doubtless, he will present at this Assembly some report, or a reason for the absence of it.

DISPENSATIONS.

In February last, I received a petition from O. H. Dibble, H. H. Hartley, A. B. Dibble, and six others, praying for a dispensation to establish a Council at Sacramento, Cal., and on the 3rd of said month, I issued a dispensation in accordance with said petition. Since that time the dispensation has been returned with a request for a new dispensation or a Warrant, locating the Council at Grass Valley, Nevada Co., Cal. The Annual Assembly of this Grand Council being so near at hand, and California being so distant, I have thought it best to refer the new petition to you for action; but, from the known standing of the petitioners, I have no hesitancy in recommending that a Warrant be granted them.

WORK AND LECTURES.

Immediately on my accession to office I appointed M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting, P. G. M., Grand Lecturer, as from his known skill as a workman, and his high reputation as a Mason, I had no doubt that the true genuine work of our sublime degrees would be alone inculcated by him. A report of his doings as Grand Lecturer I presume he will present to you during the session. I would, however, recommend that during the present session the Work and Lectures, as given by him, be exemplified before this Grand Body, or a committee appointed for that purpose, and that we take some definite action thereon. Let us, in this early period of our exist-

ence, while it is comparatively easy, establish some standard of Work and Lectures, and require a conformity thereto.

CLANDESTINE COUNCILS.

The past year has been one of happy augury to the several branches of our Order in the reconciliation of old differences, and the reuniting of those some time estranged into one common family. The Order of Royal and Select Masons, however, is an exception in this pleasing picture. There is, I am informed, a Body claiming to be the Grand Council of the State of New York, and to exercise jurisdiction as such, which is not of our fold, and whose existence is an infringement of our sovereignty. If anything can be done to remove this one discordant element from the otherwise harmonious Masonic family, consistent with our dignity as a sovereign Body, and the recognized Grand Council of the State, I would most cordially assist in its accomplishment. If there is any disposition on the other side to range themselves under legitimate authority, let us receive them with open arms. I would suggest that powers be granted to the Grand Officers to take such measures in the premises as may seem to them meet and proper.

Thus, Companions, I have endeavored to give you a plain statement of the affairs of our jurisdiction. May our session be a harmonious and pleasant one and may we all feel, when we again separate, that our meeting has not been in vain. In conclusion, I thank the officers and members of this Grand Council for the kind and cordial support and assistance I have ever received at their hands during my official connection with them, and may our successors be equally fortunate.

N. O. BENJAMIN, Grand Master.

(Copy.)

Office of the M. P. Grand Master of R. and S. Masons of the State of New York.

New York, August 14th, A. Dep. 2858.

A. T. C. Pierson, Esq.

T. I. M. of Minnesota Council, No. 5, R. and S. M.

T. I. Comp. and Dear Sir:

At the last Annual Assembly of the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York, the following resolution was adopted. (See page 15, Proceedings 1858.)

"*Resolved*, That the time for Washington Council, No. 1, and for Minnesota Council, No. 4, to make returns to this Grand Council, in accordance with the Constitution, be extended until the first day of August, next ensuing. That if said last named Councils, or either of them, shall fail to make returns on or before said last-mentioned day, then and in that case, the M. P. Grand Master be, and he is hereby directed and empowered to declare the Warrants or Warrant of the said Councils or Council so neglecting to make returns as aforesaid, forfeited and withdrawn, and to make such other or further order in the premises as shall be proper, and in accordance with the ancient usages of the Order."

Now, therefore, Minnesota Council, No. 5, having neglected to make returns within the time prescribed in the foregoing resolution, we do by these presents declare the Warrant of said Minnesota Council, No. 5, forfeited and withdrawn; and you are hereby ordered to transmit said Warrant forthwith, together with an Inventory of the property of said Council, to R. P. Comp. J. Shove, Grand Recorder, No. 77 St. Mark's Place, New York City. The rule of discipline consequent upon a violation of this edict will be rigidly enforced.

Given under our hand and the seal of the M. P. Grand Council, at the City of New York, the day and year first aforesaid.

[L. S.] N. O. BENJAMIN, Grand Master.

Attest, J. Shove, Recorder.

(Copy.)

Office of the M. P. Grand Master of R. and S. M. of the State of New York.

New York, August 10th, A. Dep. 2858.

To M. J. Drummond,

M. P. Comp. and Dear Sir:—Having been informed by the R. P. Grand Recorder that Washington Council, No. 1, has neglected to make returns and pay dues to the Grand Council, in accordance with the Constitution, thereby rendering itself liable to the forfeiture of its Warrant, (see Art. I, Sec. 19, Constitution) you are hereby ordered to deliver forthwith to the R. P. Grand Recorder, the Warrant, records, and property of said Council in your possession, for the doing of which this will be your sufficient warrant.

Given under my hand and private seal, the day and year first above written.

[L. S.] N. O. BENJAMIN, Grand Master.

The M. P. appointed as Committee on Address: R. P. and Rev. Comp. John Gray, R. P. Comp. R. G. Millard and R. Ill. Comp. Joseph Wright.

The M. P. Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

On Credentials and Returns:—R. P. Josiah Shove, P. John B. Harris, R. P. Royal G. Millard.

On Finance:—R. P. Walter T. Marvin, R. P. Bradley Parker, R. P. Augustus Willard.

On Grievances:—M. P. John B. Y. Sommers, M. P. H. F. L. Bunting, R. P. S. B. Tobey, Jr.

On Charters and Dispensations:—R. P. Bradley Parker, R. P. John Gray, R. P. Josiah Shove.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That when this Grand Council adjourns, it adjourn to meet at 7.30 o'clock, this P. M.

The Grand Recorder presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, ordered spread upon the minutes, and referred to the Finance Committee.

To the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Recorder would respectfully offer the following report:

I have received and paid over to the Grand Treasurer since opening of the last Annual Assembly, the following sums:

June 3, 1858.	From Brooklyn Council, No. 4, for dues.....	$9.50	
" "	From Excelsior Council, No. 6, for dues.....	7.00	
" "	From Adelphic Council, No. 7, for dues	27.94	
" "	From Eureka Council, No. 8, for dues	5.25	
" "	From Adelphic Council, No. 7, for dispensation,	2.00	$51.69
Feb. 2, 1859.	From Adelphic Council, No. 7..		4.00
" 3, "	Dispensation to form GrassValley Council, California		20.00
	Respectfully submitted,		$75.69

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

New York, June 8th, A. D. 1859, A. Dep. 2859.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, ordered upon the minutes, and referred to the Finance Committee:

To the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Treasurer would respectfully present the following as his Annual Report:

June 2, 1858.	Received from the late Treasurer..		$2.41
June 2, 1858.	Received from the late Grand Recorder		51.69
Feb. 2, 1859.	Received from the late Grand Recorder		4.00
Feb. 3, 1859.	Received from the late Grand Recorder		20.00
			$78.10
	Paid on account of Warrant No. 5.....	$10.00	
	Paid on account of Warrant No. 7.....	11.77	
	Paid on account of Warrant No. 8.....	5.00	
	Paid on account of Warrant No. 9.....	20.00	
	Paid on account of Warrant No. 10.....	30.00—	76.77
June 8, 1859.	Balance in my hands.....		$1.33

Respectfully submitted,

S. B. TOBEY, Jr., Grand Treasurer.

New York, June 8th, A. D. 1859, A. Dep. 2859.

On motion of P. Comp. J. B. Harris, the election of Officers of the Grand Council was made the special order for 8.30 o'clock, this P. M.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, and ordered spread at length upon the minutes:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

The undersigned, Committee on Foreign Correspondence, beg leave respectfully to submit their Annual Report:

They have received from various sources, the printed proceedings of the following Grand Bodies, viz:

Grand Council of Florida,	Grand Council of Iowa,
Grand Council of Alabama,	Grand Council of Kentucky,
Grand Council of Connecticut,	Grand Council of Texas,
Grand Council of Georgia,	Grand Council of Maine,
Grand Council of Illinois,	Grand Council of Louisiana,
Grand Council of Indiana,	Grand Council of Michigan.

Your Committee report that the proceedings of most of the above-mentioned Grand Councils reached them so late that it has been impossible to digest them as they seem richly to deserve, and that owing to this cause they are compelled to give but a brief summary of that which, detailed, would doubtless be deemed of interest to your Grand Body. It is earnestly hoped by your Committee that some better system of exchange may be devised than that which now prevails; and that hereafter they may be put in possession of the proceedings of the several Grand Councils at the earliest practicable moment after the same shall have been printed. Your Committee also deeply regret that they have been unable to obtain the proceedings of the remaining Grand Councils of the United States, for they consider them, one and all, as perfect Ashlars, which cannot be spared, without materially affecting the beauty, if not the strength, of our Masonic Temple.

Without further preface, your Committee beg attention to the following summary, which, in their opinion, abundantly proves the prosperous condition of Royal and Select Masonry in the United States.

FLORIDA.

The Grand Council of Florida was duly and regularly organized on the 13th day of January, 1858, and is now prosperously and harmoniously working in accordance with the usages of the Order. We would cordially welcome them into our ranks, and extending the right hand of fellowship, bid them God-speed.

ALABAMA.

The Grand Council of this State met in the City of Montgomery, on the 10th day of December last. Thirty-seven Subor-

dinate Councils were represented in the Grand Body; and from the proceedings we are happy to report, that the whole jurisdiction is in a most progressive state of usefulness. Most Puissant H. S. Sheldon was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Puissant Daniel Sayre was re-elected Grand Recorder.

CONNECTICUT.

The Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Connecticut was held in the City of New Haven, on the 11th day of May last. There are twenty-two Councils under this jurisdiction, of which thirteen were represented by their delegates in Grand Assembly. Most Puissant Comp. Brewer, in his address, announces the death of M. P. Alexander Hamilton, late Grand Master. The Grand Council unanimously adopted suitable resolutions in relation to this sad event. Most Puissant George F. Daskam, of Norwalk, was elected Grand Master, and Puissant E. G. Storer of New Haven was re-elected Grand Recorder.

GEORGIA.

This jurisdiction is one of the largest of the United States, and as far as we can judge from the limited information received by us, one of the most prosperous. We trust that they may long continue one of the brightest luminaries in the Masonic firmament.

ILLINOIS.

At the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of this State, there were seven Subordinate Councils represented.

INDIANA.

The Grand Council of Indiana was opened in Ample Form, at the capitol, on the 19th of May last, all its subordinates being properly represented. The report made by its Committee on Foreign Correspondence was unusually interesting, noticing the proceedings of ten Grand Councils, our own among the number.

The Grand Officers of the preceding year were without exception unanimously re-elected.

IOWA.

Royal and Select Masonry in this State is apparently in a very flourishing condition, and the proceedings of the Grand Body, at its Annual Assembly in May last, give evidence of unusual Masonic intelligence and zeal. We cordially greet our Western Companions, and trust that Cryptic Masonry in Iowa may ever be intrusted to as capable hands as now guide the helm of the Grand Council in that State. The Grand Master and Grand Recorder were unanimously re-elected.

KENTUCKY.

The Grand Council of Kentucky met in Annual Assembly at Louisville, in October last. Sixteen Subordinate Councils were represented. Nothing of particular interest to the Craft transpired, the business transacted being entirely of a local nature.

TEXAS.

The Grand Council of this State was opened in due form on the 22nd of June last. The utmost harmony characterized the proceedings; and from the list of the promotions given, it is evident that Royal and Select Masonry in Texas has already taken a prominent position in the ranks of the Order. The Grand Officers were, with one exception, unanimously re-elected.

MAINE.

The Grand Council of Maine was convened on the 6th of May, 1858, seven subordinates being represented. They report twenty-four promotions, one hundred and forty-two members, and one hundred and forty-eight dollars as received for dues.

LOUISIANA.

The Grand Council of this State met in Annual Assembly on the 11th of February, 1858, when every Subordinate Council in the jurisdiction appeared by its proper representatives. They have two hundred and one members, and report twenty-one promotions as made during the year. The Grand Officers of the past year were all unanimously re-elected.

MICHIGAN.

The Grand Council of Michigan, which was formally recognized by you at your last Annual Assembly, met in general conclave at Detroit, in January last. A Constitution and Code of By-Laws were then adopted; and from the efficiency and zeal displayed in their deliberations your Committee doubt not but that the Grand Council of Michigan will at once become a first-class power in the Order.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. B. Yates Sommers,
John J. Tindale, } Committee.
Augustus Willard,

Dated, New York, June, 1859.

The Grand Council then took a recess until 7.30 o'clock.

Wednesday, June 8th, 7.30 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Council resumed its session. Present:

The M. P. Grand Master.

Officers and Representatives as before.

The Committee on the Grand Master's Address presented the following report, which was, on motion, received and ordered spread upon the minutes, and its recommendations were adopted: To the Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

The Committee, to whom was referred the address of the M. P. Grand Master to apportion the various subjects therein treated of, to appropriate committees, would recommend, that so much of said address as relates to Dormant Councils be referred to a Special Committee of three.

That so much as relates to Dispensations, be referred to a Special Committee of three.

That so much as relates to the Work and Lectures, be referred to a Special Committee of three.

That so much as relates to Clandestine Councils, be referred to a Special Committee of three.

Respectfully submitted,

Jno. Gray,
R. G. Millard, } Committee.
Joseph Wright,

The M. P. Grand Master appointed as a Special Committee on Dormant Councils, R. P. Augustus Willard, R. P. Walter T. Marvin and P. J. B. Harris; as Committee on Work and Lectures, R. I. Joseph Wright, R. P. Walter T. Marvin, and M. P H. F L. Bunting; and as Committee on Clandestine Councils, R. P. Walter T. Marvin, R. P. Josiah Shove and P. J. B. Harris.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That when this Grand Council adjourns, it adjourn to meet at 4.30 o'clock, P. M. on Friday, the 10th inst.

The hour having arrived for the special order of election of officers for the ensuing year, the Grand Master appointed R. P. Comp. Walter T. Marvin and P. Comp. J B. Harris, as Tellers.

M. P. Nathan O. Benjamin, was elected...Grand Master.
R. P. Augustus Willard was elected....Dep. Gr. Master.
R. P. Bradley Parker was elected.....Grand Ill. Master.
R. P. Walter T. Marvin was elected..Gr. P. C. of the W.
R. P. Josiah Shove was elected.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. Royal G. Millard was elected....Grand Treasurer.
M. P. J. B. Yates Sommers
M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting } were elected ....Trustees.
M. P. John J. Tindale

The officers elect were then duly installed by M. P. Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers.

The M. P. Grand Master made the following appointments:

P. John B. Harris.....G. C. of the G.
P. A. B. McKeon .....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. John Gray
R. P. and Rev. H. C. Vogell
R. P. and Rev. J. C. Chatterton } Grand Chaplains.
R. P. and Rev. James M. Freeman
P. Joseph Wright.....Grand Steward.
P. George Dowding .....Grand Sentinel.
M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting..... ..Grand Lecturer.

As Committee on Foreign Correspondence, M. P. J. B. Y. Sommers, R. P. Walter T. Marvin, R. P. Augustus Willard.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Council attend the exemplication of the work in Adelphic Council, No. 7, on the 9th inst., at 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Council then took a recess until 4 o'clock, P. M., on Friday.

Friday, 10th inst., 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Council resumed its session. Present:

The M. P. Grand Master.
Officers and Representatives as before.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and ordered spread upon the minutes:

To the Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

The Committee on Credentials and Returns would report that the following Councils have made returns and paid dues:

Brooklyn Council, No. 4	$8.62
Adelphic Council, No. 7	54.93
Eureka Council, No. 8	5.88
	$69.43

We have examined said returns, and find the same correct.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Shove,
J. B. Harris, } Committee.
R. G. Millard,

The Finance Committee presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, and ordered spread upon the minutes:
To the Grand Council:

Your Finance Committee would respectfully report, that they have examined the reports of the Recorder and Treasurer and find the same correct. They have also examined bills of $30.00 and $18.79, and recommend that warrants be drawn for those amounts.

W. T. Marvin,
Bradley Parker, } Finance Committee.
Augustus Willard,

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, and ordered spread upon the minutes:

To the Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

The Committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's Address, as relates to the Charter for a Council to be located at Grass Valley, Nevada County, California, have carefully investigated the case, and from the well-known high standing of the applicants for the same, cheerfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to Companions O. H. Dibble, Wm. McCormick, E. W. Spafford, and six others, for a Council, to be located at Grass Valley, Nevada County, California, to be called and known as Grass Valley Council, No. 10.

J. B. Y. Sommers,
Jno. Gray, } Committee.
J. Shove,

The Committee on Dormant Councils presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That Genesee and Excelsior Councils be allowed sixty days to make returns, and pay their dues to the Grand Recorder.

Which was, on motion, adopted.

The Committee, to whom was referred the matter of Clandestine Councils, presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Executive Officers of this Grand Council be fully empowered to take such action in the premises as they may deem best.

Which was, on motion, adopted.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That Sec. 1, of Art. 2, of the Constitution be amended by inserting the word Deputy between the words Illustrious and Master, making the title of the second officer of a Subordinate Council, Right Illustrious Deputy Master.

The Committee on Work and Lectures presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and its recommendation adopted:

To the Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Committee would respectfully report that they attended the exemplification of the Work in the Royal and Select Master's Degrees in Adelphic Council, No. 7, on the 9th inst.; that they were much pleased with the same and would strongly recommend its adoption.

Joseph Wright,
W. T. Marvin,
H. F. L. Bunting, } Committee.

On motion, the sum of five dollars was ordered paid to P. Comp. Dowding.

On motion of M. P. Comp. Sommers, a committee of three was appointed to prepare a suitable installation service for the use

of this Grand Council, and for Subordinate Councils. The M. P. Grand Master appointed as such Committee, M. P. Comp. Sommers and R. P. Comps. Shove and Parker.

The Committee on Grievances reported that there had been no business referred to them, and, on motion, the report was received, and the Committee discharged.

On motion of R. P. Comp. Shove, it was

Resolved, That four hundred copies of the Transactions of this Grand Council be printed, and that twenty copies thereof be sent to each Council under this jurisdiction, and one to each Chapter in the State, and three to each Grand Council in the United States.

R. P. Comp. Millard offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council be held in the city of New York, on the first Tuesday in June, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M.

No further business appearing, the Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

RECEIPTS.

Dues from Brooklyn Council, No. 4.....	$8.62
Dues from Adelphic Council, No. 7.....	54.93
Dues from Eureka Council, No. 8.....	5.88
Charter of Grass Valley Council, No. 10....	10.00
Adelphic Council, No. 7, for Dispensations..	4.00
	$83.43

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

M. P. Nathan O. Benjamin, Grand Master....New York.

R. P. Augustus Willard, Dep. Gr. Master.....Greene.

R. P. Bradley Parker, Gr. Illus. Master.....Brooklyn.

R. P. Walter T. Marvin, Gr. P. C. of the W..New York.

R. P. Josiah Shove, Grand Recorder.....New York.

R. P. Royal G. Millard, Grand Treasurer....New York.

R. P. John B. Harris, Gr. C. of the Guard....New York.

R. P. A. B. McKeon, Grand Marshal.....New York.

Grand Chaplains.

R. P. and Rev. John Gray..... .....West Point.

R. P. and Rev. Henry C. Vogell.....Rome.

R. P. and Rev. J. C. Chatterton .... New York.

R. P. and Rev. James M. Freeman..... Newark, N. J.

P. Joseph Wright, Grand Steward.....Brooklyn.

P. George Dowding, Grand Sentinel.....New York.

Grand Master, N. O. Benjamin, Artisans' Bank. New York.

Grand Recorder, J. Shove, 31 Nassau St.....New York.

Grand Lecturer, H. F. L. Bunting.....New York.

N. B.—Documents sent to the Grand Master or Recorder at New York, should have the address as above.

SUBORDINATE COUNCILS

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of the State of New York

Councils	T.·. I.·. Master	R.·. I.·. Master	Ill. P. C. of the W.	Recorders	Location
Washington, No. 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	Warrant recalled
Brooklyn, No. 4	J. B. Harris	Jos. Wright	G. W. Riecks	Richard Sharp	Brooklyn
Minnesota, No. 5	.....	.....	.....	.....	Warrant recalled
Excelsior, No. 6	.....	.....	.....	.....	No Returns
Adelphic, No. 7	J. Shove	R. G. Millard	A. B. McKeon	N. O. Benjamin	New York
Eureka, No. 8	A. Willard	S. S. Beckwith	A. H. Smith	P. B. Rathbone	Greene
Genesee, No. 9	.....	.....	.....	.....	No Returns
Grass Valley, No. 10	O. H. Dibble	H. H. Hartley	A. B. Dibble	.....	California
Kane, U. D	Jno. Sheville	Wm. Mead	J. K. Lewis	.....	Newark, N. J.
Oneida, U. D	G. F. Bicknell	S. Adams	H. G. Utley	.....	Rome
Central City, U. D.	S. H. Stone	S. M. Rust	C. W. Snow	.....	Syracuse

GRAND COUNCILS OF THE UNITED STATES.

Alabama,

Connecticut,

Florida,

Georgia,

Illinois,

Indiana,

Iowa,

Kentucky,

Louisiana,

Maine,

Michigan,

Mississippi,

New York,

Ohio,

Pennsylvania,

Tennessee,

Texas,

Vermont,

Wisconsin.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND COUNCIL
ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS

OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK

From 1854 to 1872.

GRAND COUNCIL—ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Grand Council Room, cor. Grand and Centre Sts.,

Tuesday, June 5th, 7.30 P. M., A. D., 1860, A. Dep. 2860.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York convened in Annual Assembly in the City of New York, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the last Annual Assembly, on Tuesday, June 5th, A. D. 1860, A. Dep. 2860.

Present:

M. P. Nathan O. Benjamin.....Grand Master.
R. P. Augustus Willard.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. Bradley Parker.....Grand Illustrious Master.
R. P. Walter T. Marvin...Grand P. C. of the Works.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. R. G. Millard.....Grand Treasurer.
R. P. John B. Harris.....Grand C. of G.
R. P. A. B. McKeon.....Grand Marshal.
T. I. and Rev. C. H. Platt as.....Grand Chaplain.
P. Joseph Wright.....Grand Steward.
P. George Dowding.....Grand Sentinel.

And the following Past Grand Officers:

M. P. J. B. Yates Sommers.....Past G. M.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Brooklyn .....No. 4.
Adelphic .....No. 7.
Eureka .....No. 8.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form by the M. P. Grand Master.

On motion of R. P. Comp. R. G. Millard, it was

Resolved, That all Companion Select Masters in good standing in the Order be invited to take seats as visitors in this Grand Council.

On motion of T. I. Comp. S. W. Thomas, the reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Assembly was dispensed with.

The M. P. Grand Master then presented his Annual Address, which was, on motion of M. P. Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers, ordered to be spread at length upon the minutes, and referred to a committee of three to apportion the various subjects therein treated of, to appropriate committees.

THE ADDRESS.

Officers and Companions of the Grand Council:

Again we meet in Annual Assembly, again we grasp each other by the hand; and again, face to face, have we an opportunity of expressing those friendly wishes for each other's happiness and prosperity, which should ever animate "the select, the faithful, and the worthy."

Companions, I greet you and congratulate you on the prosperity which now smiles on this branch of our beloved Order. A great change has been wrought in one short year. The trowel now wakes the echoes in the late silent arches, and the busy hum of workmen resounds through the vaults where silence has reigned for thirty long years. The "benighted region" has been invaded, and Cryptic Masonry now radiates light from its very centre. Let us, then, Companions, in this our hour of prosperity, render unto the Great Architect of the Universe that thanksgiving and praise which is due from the creature to his Creator and ask Him, that He will still continue to "give strength to our endeavors, and support to our exertions," and that Union, Harmony and Peace may cluster around us in the future, as in the past.

The office of Grand Master, to which, in your partiality, you saw fit at the last Annual Assembly to re-elect me, is no sinecure; and if my acts in an official capacity seem few and insignificant, it is not because there is no work to be done, but because I have been unable, consistently with my duty to others, to devote any more time to the business of the Grand Council.

Had my ability equaled my will, I would have spent the whole year in endeavors to spread the light of our beautiful degrees over our jurisdiction; but, like other mortals, I have been obliged, oftentimes, to leave the pleasant for the less agreeable duties. But there is much to be done, there has been enough accomplished to encourage us to renewed zeal in the "noble and glorious undertaking" in which we are engaged; and that part of the work which has fallen to my lot is fully and plainly narrated in the following report of my acts as your Grand Master.

DELINQUENT COUNCILS.

Excelsior Council, No. 6, and Genesee Council, No. 9, failed to make returns and pay dues at the last Annual Assembly; and thus, under Article I, Section 19, of the Constitution, became liable to the forfeiture of their warrants. A resolution was adopted by this Grand Body, giving the delinquent Councils sixty days further time, in which to make returns. The sixty days expired and the Grand Recorder notified me of the fact, that neither Council had availed itself of the indulgence of this Grand Council.

In the meantime, I had ascertained that Excelsior Council had not met for more than two years; that its certificates of election were made up by its late Master, now an expelled Mason; and that the Constitutions were frequently violated in said Council before it had ceased to meet.

The warrant, seal and other properties, were still in the hands of the last elected Master, who having been expelled by his Lodge from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, ceased from that moment to a member of the Council. I, therefore, on the 21st day of November last, ordered him to deliver the warrant and properties of Excelsior Council, No. 6, to the last elected Deputy Master of said Council, which order has never been obeyed.

On the 25th of January last, I issued an official edict, declaring the warrant of Excelsior Council, No. 6, forfeited, and all the powers therein granted, null and void. My further action in reference to the Royal and Select Masters at Elmira will properly come up under the title of Dispensations.

By correspondence with the last Master of Genesee Council, No. 9, I learned that it would be impossible for the Companions composing it to sustain in such a way, as would be creditable to themselves and to the Craft; and accordingly on the 29th of February, 1860, I ordered the warrant, papers, and other property belonging to said Council, to be transmitted to the Grand Recorder, which order has not yet been obeyed.

Copies of my official orders and edicts, in reference to delinquent Councils, will be found annexed to, and forming a part of this report.

DISPENSATIONS FOR NEW COUNCILS.

I have, during the past year, issued Letters of Dispensation for the establishment of several new Councils; and in every instance, I am satisfied that the secret traditions and ancient land-marks of the Order have been intrusted to proper persons. I presume all the Councils I have established will send up their work to be examined by this Grand Body; and such as have their work approved, will, no doubt, receive Warrants of Constitution.

On the 15th day of June, A. Dep. 2859, I granted a dispensation to T. I. John Sheville, Master; R. I. William Mead, Deputy Master; I. Joseph K. Lewis, Principal Conductor of the Works; and six others, for a Council, to be called, "Kane Council," and located in the City of Newark, County of Essex, and State of New Jersey. On the 15th of November, of the same year, in accordance with the unanimous request of said Council, I issued an edict appointing T. I. William Mead, Master; R. I. Joseph K. Lewis, Deputy Master and I. Dennis W. Morris, Principal Conductor of the Works of said Council.

On the 6th day of October last, I issued a dispensation to T. I. George F. Bicknell, Master; R. I. Sanford Adams, Deputy Master; I. Harman G. Utley, Principal Conductor of the Works; and six other Companions, to form a Council, to be named "Oneida Council," and located in the Village of Rome, County of Oneida, and State of New York.

On the 7th day of October, I issued a like dispensation to T. I. Seymour H. Stone, Master; R. I. Stiles M. Rust, Deputy Master; I. Charles W. Snow, Principal Conductor of the Works; and six other Companions, to form a Council in the City of Syracuse, County of Onondaga and State of New York, to be called "Central City Council."

On the 23rd day of November last, I issued letters of dispensation to T. I. Richard Bloss, Master; R. I. George Babcock, Deputy Master; I. Charles Teson, Principal Conductor of the Works; and seven other Companions, to form a Council in the City of Troy, County of Rensselaer, in this State, to be called "Bloss Council."

On the 19th day of December, 1859, I issued like letters to T. I. and Rev. Charles H. Platt, Master; R. I. Charles Craig, Deputy Master; I. Daniel A. Knapp, Principal Conductor of the Works; and six other Companions, to form a Council in the Town of Lockport, County of Niagara, to be called, "Bruce Council."

On the 20th day of February, A. Dep. 2860, I issued like letters to T. I. Charles E. Gillett, Master; R. I. Wm. Lee, Deputy Master; I. George S. McCann, Principal Conductor of the Works; and six other Companions, to form a Council in the Town of Elmira, County of Chemung, and State of New York, to be called "Southern Tier Council."

Eight of the petitioners were formerly members of Excelsior Council, No. 6, but did not sympathize with the contumacious majority.

The foregoing are all Councils that have been established by me during the past year, but I am informed that there are several more in progress of formation, in various parts of the State, and that one or two more petitions will probably be presented to this Grand Council, for warrants, during its present Assembly.

SUBORDINATE COUNCILS.

The only warranted Councils now working and in good standing, under our jurisdiction, are Brooklyn, No. 4, Adelphic, No. 7, Eureka, No. 8, and Grass Valley, No. 10; all of which are, I am credibly informed, in a prosperous and healthy condition, and doing good work.

I have not been able to visit any of them during the past year, except Adelphic, No. 7, which, from the fact of its being the only Council in the City, is continually besieged by Companions seeking admission to the Cryptic Mysteries. There is abundant room for one or two more Councils in this Metropolis and I presume an effort will soon be made to revive some of the dormant Councils formerly working here.

GRAND COUNCILS OF THE UNITED STATES.

By the kindness of the Grand Recorder, and of various Companions throughout the United States, I have been enabled to hear from all of the twenty Grand Councils in the Union; and from the printed proceedings of some, and private letters of the Grand Officers of others, I learn with satisfaction, that Select Masonry is advancing with rapid strides and that but a few years more will be needed to successfully establish a Grand Council in every State. But this subject belongs more properly to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence and to them I shall leave it, knowing that in the hands of the learned and accomplished Chairman of that Committee, it will be more thoroughly and ably handled than my feeble abilities would allow.

INSIGNIA AND JEWELS.

The insignia and jewels of either Grand or Subordinate Councils are nowhere defined in the Constitutions, General Regulations,

or Proceedings of this Grand Body; nor is there any Resolution of this Grand Council on that subject, except the following, which was adopted the 9th day of August, 2855, viz:

"*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to report the correct style of Jewels for Grand and Subordinate Councils of Royal and Select Masters;" but I cannot find that the Committee appointed under the above resolution ever made any report, except that on the 22rd of the same month they reported progress. I would, therefore, recommend that a special Committee be appointed at this Annual Assembly, to take into consideration and report as soon as practicable, what the jewels and insignia of Grand and Subordinate Councils should be, and suitable regulations concerning the same.

GENERAL REGULATIONS AND STANDING RESOLUTIONS:

Our General Regulations are admirable, as far as they go, but there are many points which are unsettled by them, and I take this opportunity of calling the attention of the Grand Council to some of their defects. On page 45 of Transactions of 1856, is the following resolution which appears to have been adoptd:

"*Resolved*, That in future no Companions shall be received or greeted in the Grand Council unless they have been previously proposed and balloted for in a Subordinate Council having jurisdiction, and then only for the benefit of said Council."

I am somewhat at a loss, Companions, as to the meaning of the above quoted resolution, and I think its passage, in its present shape, must have been the effect of hasty legislation. If it is intended as an infringement on the prerogative of the Grand Master of making Royal and Select Masters at sight, it is null and void, because it conflicts with Article I, Section 6, of the Constitutions, but if it is only intended as a declaration of the Grand Council, that it will not confer the degrees at its assemblies, I would recommend that it be amended, so as to express that idea only. All legislation should be expressed in unequivocal terms.

This Grand Council is without Rules of Order, or Order of Business, that matter being left entirely to the discretion of the Grand Master, or presiding officer. "Order is Heaven's first law," and the governing body of "the summit and perfection of Ancient Craft Masonry" in the Empire State is without any Rules for its government, when assembled in a legislative capacity, except the caprice of the Companion who may chance to occupy its Grand East. I am opposed to all that spirit of innovation, which is so rampant at the present day, and which would take away, one after the other, the ancient prerogatives of the presiding officer of a Masonic Body, until it had reduced him to the level of the presiding officer of a poli-

tical convention, destitute of power to enforce his decisions, but I do think that a body like ours should proceed with its business according to some established rules, both for its own convenience and the convenience of its Grand Master. I, therefore, recommend that a committee be appointed to draft Rules of Order for the government of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, at its Annual Assemblies.

CONSTITUTIONS.

Our Constitutions, printed in 1855, have been frequently amended since that time, and it is desirable that a new edition should be printed for the use of our subordinates, but as there probably will be more changes made in future Assemblies of this Grand Council, I would recommend that the Grand Recorder be directed to have the Constitutions, as they stand at the close of this Annual Assembly, printed as an appendix to the Transactions.

Article II, Section 5, of the Constitution says: "No Council under this jurisdiction shall receive or greet more than five new Companions at the same time." I think this is extra legislation, and I have studied the degrees of Royal and Select Master to little purpose if such a regulation is necessary.

The ritual fixes the number to be received and greeted at the same time, as far as there is any necessity for such a regulation, and I would respectfully suggest, that it would be better to erase that clause from our Statutes.

There are in our Constitutions no qualifications required to hold office in the Grand Council, but any Select Master is eligible to the office, even of Grand Master. This should not be so, because it is subversive of the conservative nature of our institution, which requires that all should win promotion, step by step, as they may merit it, and thus in process of time, every Companion who has the ability in him, may hope to arrive at the top of the ladder. The fourth of the Ancient Charges says: "All preferment among Masons is grounded on real worth and personal merit only; that so the Lords may be well served, the Brethren not put to shame, nor the Royal Craft despised, therefore, no Master or Warden is chosen by seniority, but for his merit." And again, "that so, when otherwise qualified, he may arrive to the Honor of being the Warden, and then the Master of the Lodge, the Grand Warden, and at length the Grand Master of all the Lodges according to his Merit." Here is ample proof of Ancient usage on this point; and in my opinion, should we bring our Order back to its ancient customs and usages in the selection of its rulers, its usefulness would be greatly increased and there would be less room for the display of that partisan spirit, which I regret to state sometimes manifests itself in Masonic elections.

My correspondence during the past year has become very voluminous, which induces me to believe that our branch of the Order is exciting the interest of numbers of our Companions. I have rendered many decisions, but the following are the only ones which occur to me as being of a general nature:

1. The Officers of a Council under dispensation should not be installed.

2. The Officers of a Council, U. D., other than the first three should be appointed by the Master.

3. A Council, U. D., has not the right to hold an election of Officers at the time prescribed by the Constitutions for Subordinate Councils; nor at any other time. If a Council, U. D., wishes to change its first three officers, or either of them, it must petition the Grand Master to make the change, and the Master of the Council has the power of changing the remaining officers at pleasure.

4. A Subordinate Council has the right to heal illegally-made Royal and Select Masters, on condition that they attach themselves to some legal Council, (see Resolution of the Grand Council, June, 1856), but I would not advise the exercise of this power on any who were made since May, 1854.

5. A proposition having passed the ballot with a negative result, can be again presented at any time, but every member must be notified of the time when the ballot is to be again taken, so that the objecting member or members may have an opportunity to again deposit a black ball, if he or they think proper. As this question is one of considerable importance, I shall give some reasons for the decision I have made. All the Masonic laws on this subject that have come under my observation seem intended to promote one object, and that is the unanimity and harmony of the body, and to prevent a majority bringing in any person surreptitiously, who may be obnoxious to some member or members thereof. Hence, some Grand Bodies require six months should elapse before a proposition is again presented; others require other periods of time. I think, however, that any particular period of time should not be made the invariable rule, but, that it should be left rather to the judgment of the Master of the Council, whether or not, to receive a proposition again after it has been once rejected, and he should on no account order a ballot thereon, unless every member is notified. By this restriction we gain all the advantages of those rules which require a certain time to elapse, and retain none of their disadvantages. My decision giving the Master discretionary power in the case above referred to, would not, of course, release him from responsibility for the abuse of that discretion.

UNION.

In my report of last year, I referred to a division in the ranks of our Select band, and in anticipation of some action towards union, this Grand Council passed a resolution empowering its first four Grand Officers, "to take such action in the premises as they may deem best." A committee of five was appointed by the "Grand Council of Royal Master Masons" for the purpose of meeting a like committee of this Grand Council, and preparing a basis of union. Your officers wishing to have the valuable counsel and assistance of one of those Companions who was most active in the formation of this Grand Council, and whose zeal in the cause, years of service have not cooled; also to make your committee equal in numbers to the committee with whom we were to confer, associated with themselves, M. P. J. B. Yates Sommers. The two committees thus constituted met in the month of May, and jointly drew up a series of Articles of Union, which will be submitted to you for your approval. The case is somewhat of an anomalous one, as both Bodies were, no doubt, in their inception, regular. The origin of our Grand Council is too well known to you to require at my hands any argument to prove the legality of its organization; but in regard to the other body a few remarks will not, perhaps, be out of place. The "Grand Council of Royal Master Masons" was organized, I believe, about the year 1807, by a charter from the Supreme Council of the 33d degree, Scottish Rite, of which Joseph Cerneau was at that time Grand Commander, and hence is, by about twenty years, the oldest Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in the United States. It chartered the Councils from which the Grand Council of Massachusetts and other Grand Councils have sprung. The last warrant granted by it, was to Houston Council, No. 10, Texas, in 1847. The unfortunate difficulties of 1849 in this State severed the connection between the Grand Council and the majority of the Select Masters in the State, and, as you well know, rendered the formation of this Grand Council in 1854 necessary. The Union of 1858, in the Grand Lodge, again brought us into fellowship in Symbolic Masonry with those from whom we had been so long estranged, and it was soon followed by a union in Capitular and Templar Masonry. The Cryptic branch of the Order alone has remained sundered, and it rests with you Companions, whether this state of affairs shall continue or cease; whether we shall be, "a house divided against itself," or a united family. The Articles which will be presented to you for approval, contemplate a Union on equal and honorable terms, and avoid any unnecessary allusion to the past. Your committee have cordially approved them and recommend them to you for adoption.

Thus, Companions of the Grand Council, I have endeavored to give you an account of my stewardship during the past year. That

I have committed errors is probable, for "to err is human"; but I am induced to believe, from the kindness I have ever received at your hands, that such errors will be judged leniently, and ascribed rather to the head, than to the heart.

And now, Companions, before laying off the robes of office with which you have invested me, allow me to express my gratitude for the cordial support and assistance I have received at your hands, which has rendered the performance of the duties devolving on your executive, generally pleasant and agreeable, and which will render the memory of his connection with this Grand Body one of the most cherished recollections of his life. May our session be a harmonious and pleasant one, and may we have but one object in view, the prosperity and good of the Order, and having finished our labors in these earthly vaults, may we all be admitted into the Grand Council above, where the Supreme Grand Master forever presides, forever reigns.

N. O. BENJAMIN, Grand Master.

(Copy.)

Office of the M. P. Grand Master of R. and S. M. of the State of New York.

New York, November 21st, A. Dep. 2860.

To Thomas C. Edwards, Esq., Late Master of Excelsior Council, No. 6, R. and S. M.:

Whereas, We have been officially informed, that you have been expelled from all the rights and privileges of Masonry by the Lodge having jurisdiction over you, and

Whereas, Such expulsion extends to all the higher branches of the Order, and vacates any office or offices you may hold therein; and,

Whereas, We are informed, that you still retain the Warrant of Excelsior Council, No. 6, in your possession: Now,

Therefore, You are required forthwith to deliver said Warrant, and any properties of said Council that may be in your possession, to R. I. James S. French, or I. Squire Newton, whichsoever of them shall serve this order upon you, and for so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant.

Given under our hand and private seal, at the city of New York, the day and year first above written.

N. O. BENJAMIN,
Grand Master.

[L. S.]

(Copy.)

Office of the M. P. Grand Master of R. and S. M., of the State of New York.

New York, January 25th, A. Dep. 2860.

To all whom it may concern, and particularly to the Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York. Greeting:

Whereas, Excelsior Council, No. 6, has ceased to meet for more than one year, and

Whereas, Said Council has neglected to make returns as provided and required by Art. I, Sec. 19, of the Constitution; and

Whereas, The sixty days' grace allowed it by the M. P. Grand Council at its Annual Assembly, held June, 1859, has long since expired: Now,

Therefore, by virtue of the high powers in us vested, we declare the Warrant of said Excelsior Council, No. 6, forfeited, and all the powers therein granted null and void.

We would take this occasion to inform the Royal and Select Masters of our jurisdiction that the late Master of Excelsior Council, No. 6, having been expelled from all the rights and privileges of Masonry by the Lodge of which he was a member, is thereby cut off from all connection with this branch of the Order, and any recognition of him as a Select Mason is strictly forbidden.

All Masters of Councils are ordered to cause this, our Edict, to be read in open Council.

Given under our hand and the Seal of the Grand Council, at the City of New York, the day and year first above written.

[L. S.] N. O. BENJAMIN, Grand Master.

Attest, J. Shove, Grand Recorder.

(Copy.)

Office of the M. P. Grand Master of R. and S. M., of the State of New York.

New York, February 29th, A. Dep. 2860.

To T. I. Hiram York, Master of Genesee Council, No. 9, R. and S. M.:

Whereas, Genesee Council, No. 9, R. and S. M., has failed to make returns and pay dues to the M. P. Grand Council of the State of New York, as required by the Constitutions; therefore, by virtue of the high powers in us vested, we declare the warrant of said Genesee Council, No. 9, forfeited, and you are required forthwith to transmit said warrant, together with all books and papers belonging to said Council to R. P. Josiah Shove, Grand Recorder, No. 31 Nassau Street, New York City, and for so doing this will be your sufficient warrant.

Given under our hand and private seal at the city of New York, the day and year first above written.

N. O. BENJAMIN, Grand Master.

The M. P. appointed as Committee on Address, M. P. J. B. Yates Sommers and R. P. Comps. J. B. Harris and W. T. Marvin.

The M. P. Grand Master appointed the following Committee:

On Warrants:—R. P. Comp. W. T. Marvin, R. P. Comp. R. G. Millard, T. I. Comp. S. W. Thomas.

The Commitee on Grand Master's Address presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received; the committee were discharged and their recommendations adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M., of the State of New York:

The Special Committee to whom was referred the Annual Address of the Most Puissant Grand Master, very respectfully report, that they have given the said Address that careful an attentive perusal which it so richly merits, and recommends a special reference of certain portions thereof, as follows:

First. That so much of the Grand Master's Address as refers to "Dispensations for new Councils," be referred to the Committee on Warrants.

Second. That so much thereof as refers to the "Grand Councils of the United States," be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Third. That so much thereof as refers to "Insignia and Jewels," be referred to a Special Committee of three.

Fourth. That so much thereof as refers to "Amendments to the Constitution," "Rules of Order," "General Regulations" and "Standing Resolutions," be referred to a Special Committee of three.

Fifth. That so much thereof as refers to "Decisions of Grand Master upon questions proposed," be referred to a Committee on Jurisprudence.

Sixth. That so much thereof as refers to the proposed "Union" be referred to the Committee already appointed thereon.

Your Committee in conclusion, beg leave respectfully to offer the following resolution for the consideration and adoption of this Grand Council:

Resolved, That the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York entirely approves of and endorses the action of its Grand Master in regard to the "Delinquent Councils" referred to in his Annual Address, and that the same is hereby in all respects adopted and confirmed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. B. Yates Sommers,
W. T. Marvin,
J. B. Harris, } Committee.

Dated, New York, June 5th, 1860.

R. P. Comp. W. T. Marvin, from the Committee on Warrants, presented the following Report, and, on motion, the report was received and the resolutions accompanying the same were adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M., of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Warrants and Dispensations, to whom was referred the petition of a constitutional number of Companions, praying for a warrant to continue a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the City of Newark, N. J., to be called Kane Council.

Also, a like petition for a Council to be located at Syracuse, N. Y., to be called Central City Council.

Also, a like petition for a Council to be located at Troy, N. Y., to be called Bloss Council.

Also, a like petition for a Council to be located at Lockport, N. Y., to be called Bruce Council.

Also, a like petition for a Council to be located at Elmira, N. Y., to be called Southern Tier Council, respectfully report, that the above named Councils have been working under dispensations, duly granted by the Grand Master, and we find, on examination, their proceedings are regular and in conformity with the Constitutions and Regulations of this Grand Council.

Your Committee, therefore, offer for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to T. I. William Mead, Master, R. I. C. M. Zeh, Deputy Master, I. Dennis W. Morris, Principal Conductor of the Works, and others, to hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the City of Newark, County of Essex and State of New Jersey, by the name and style of Kane Council, No. 11.

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to T. I. Seymour H. Stone, Master, R. I. Stiles M. Rust, Deputy Master, I. Charles W. Snow, Principal Conductor of the Works, and others, to hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the city of Syracuse, County of Onondaga and State of New York, by the name and style of Central City Council, No. 13.

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to T. I. Richard Bloss,

Master, R. I. George Babcock, Deputy Master, I. Charles Teson, Principal Conductor of the Works, and others, to hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the City of Troy, County of Rensselaer and State of New York, by the name and style, Bloss Council, No. 14.

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to T. I. and Rev. Chas. H. Platt, Master, R. I. Charles Craig, Deputy Master, I. Daniel A. Knapp, Principal Conductor of the Works, and others, to hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the town of Lockport, County of Niagara and State of New York, by the name and style of Bruce Council, No. 15.

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to T. I. Charles E. Gillett, Master, R. I. William Lee, Deputy Master, I. George S. McCann, Conductor of the Works, and others, to hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the town of Elmira, County of Chemung and State of New York, by the name and style of Southern Tier Council, No. 16.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. T. Marvin,)
R. G. Millard, } Committee.
S. W. Thomas,)

New York, June 5, A. Dep. 2860.

The Grand Recorder presented the following Annual Report, which was received, and referred to the Finance Committee:

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

Your Recorder would respectfully report, that since the date of the last report, he has received the following sums:

June 8, 1859.	Dues Brooklyn Council, No. 4...	$8.62
June 8, 1859.	Dues Adelphic Council, No. 7....	54.93
June 8, 1859.	Dues Eureka Council, No. 8.....	5.88
June 8, 1859.	Dues Charter Grass Valley Council, No. 10.....	10.00
July 15, 1859.	Dispensations to Adelphic Council, No. 7.....	4.00
Oct. 6, 1859.	Dispensation to form Kane Council, at Newark.....	20.00
Oct. 6, 1859.	Dispensation to form Oneida Council, at Rome	20.00
Oct. 7, 1859.	Dispensation to form Central City, Council, at Syracuse.....	20.00
Nov. 14, 1859.	Dispensation to confer degrees Brooklyn Council, No. 4.....	1.00
Nov. 23, 1859.	Dispensation to form Bloss Council, at Troy.....	20.00
Dec. 19, 1859.	Dispensation to form Bruce Council, at Lockport	20.00
Feb. 20, 1860.	Dispensation to form Southern Tier Council, at Elmira.....	20.00
Feb. 25, 1860.	Dispensation to confer degrees Adelphic Council, No. 7.....	8.00
May 21, 1860.	Affixing seal to certificate.....	.50
June 2, 1860.	Affixing seal to certificate.....	.50
	Total.....	$213.43

Which amount has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer and his receipt taken therefor.

He would also state, for the information of the Grand Council, that he has succeeded in establishing an interchange of Transactions with all the Grand Councils which publish the same, and that he has received from nearly every Grand Council the Transactions for past years, making a nearly perfect file, which he would recommend should be bound and preserved among the Archives of this Grand Council.

Respectfully submitted,

J. SHOVE, Recorder.

New York, June 5th, A. D. 1860, A. Dep. 2860.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following Annual Report, which was received and referred to the Finance Committee:

To the M. P. Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

Your Grand Treasurer would beg leave to present the following Annual Report:

June 8, 1859.	Received from late Grand Treasurer		$1.33
June 8, 1859.	" " " "	Recorder	83.43
July 15, 1859.	" " " "	"	20.00
Oct. 6, 1859.	" " " "	"	20.00
Oct. 7, 1859.	" " " "	"	20.00
Nov. 14, 1859.	" " " "	"	1.00
Nov. 23, 1859.	" " " "	"	20.00
Dec. 19, 1859.	" " " "	"	20.00
Feb. 20, 1860.	" " " "	"	20.00
Feb. 25, 1860.	" " " "	"	8.00
May 21, 1860.	" " " "	"	.50
June 2, 1860.	" " " "	"	.50
			$214.76

June 10, 1859.	Paid Warrant, No. 11	$5.00	
June 10, 1859.	" " " 12	18.79	
Jan. 20, 1860.	" " " 13	30.00	
Jan. 20, 1860.	" " " 14	5.00	
Mar. 20, 1860.	" " " 15	7.70	
June 10, 1859.	" " " 16	10.00	
April 9, 1860.	" " " 17	60.50	
Mar. 10, 1860.	" " " 18	3.00	
Nov. 21, 1859.	" " " 19	42.56	
June 2, 1860.	" " " 20	9.74	— 192.29

Balance in my hands this date.....$22.47

Respectfully submitted,

R. G. MILLARD, Grand Treasurer.

New York, June 5th, 1860.

The Committee on Union presented the following report. (See Proceedings of Grand Council R. Masons, page 6), and on motion the report was received, the Articles of Union were unanimously adopted and ratified.

On motion, a committee of three was appointed to exchange ratifications with the committee from the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons of the State of New York.

The M. P. Grand Master appointed as such Committee, M. P. Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers, R. P. Comp. J. B. Harris, and P. Comp. Joseph Wright.

The Committee reported that they had completed the duty assigned them of exchanging the ratification of the Articles of Union, and that R. P. Comps. Bate and Godfrey were now in waiting, when the said Companions were introduced and welcomed by the Grand Master.

On motion, a committee was appointed to wait upon the late Grand Council of Royal Master Masons of the State of New York, and invite them to meet with us.

The M. P. appointed as such committee, T. I. Comp. Bloss, T. I. and Rev. Comp. Platt, and M. P. Comp. Sommers.

The M. P. Grand Master appointed as committee on the death of M. P Comp. Dunlap, of Maine, M. P. Comp. Sommers, R. I. Comp. Babcock, and T. I. and Rev. Comp. Platt.

A petition from a constitutional number of Companions for a warrant to form a Council of R. and S. M., at Buffalo, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Warrants.

On motion, it was resolved that when this Grand Council adjourns, it does so, to meet in this room, to-morrow at 7.30 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Council then took a recess.

Wednesday Evening, June 6, 7.30 P. M.

The Grand Council resumed its session.

Present: The M. P. Grand Master; Officers and Representatives as before.

R. P. Comp. J. B. Harris offered the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Constitutions and General Regulations:

Resolved, That Article II, Section 6, be amended so as to read, "The first five officers of a Subordinate Council hereinbefore named, must be chosen annually by ballot, and by a majority of votes at the regular Assembly immediately preceding the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, and must be installed on or before the next regular Assembly thereafter, and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the Master, and hold office during his pleasure.

T. I. Comp. S. H. Stone offered the following resolutions, which were referred to the Committee on Constitutions and General Regulations:

Resolved, That Article I, Section 4, of the Constitutions be amended so as to read as follows, viz: "The first six officers of this Grand Council shall be elected at the Annual Assembly, by ballot, and by a majority of votes; and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master and hold office during his pleasure; but no companion shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Illustrious Master, or Grand Principal Conductor of the Works, unless he shall be a present or Past Master of a Subordinate Council; provided nothing herein shall be so construed as to render ineligible any companion who has heretofore served in either of those offices."

Resolved, That the Constitutions of this Grand Council be amended by striking out the words, "Thrice Illustrious" and "Right Illustrious," where they, or either of them occur in Article I, Section 1, 2, and 6; and in Article II, Section 7, 8, and 9; and inserting the word "Deputy" in place of the words "Right Illustrious" hereby stricken out.

Resolved, That Article II, Section 1, be amended so as to read as follows: "A Council of Royal and Select Masters shall consist of a Master, (whose style is Thrice Illustrious), a Deputy Master, (whose style is Right Illustrious), a Principal Conductor of the Works, (whose style is Illustrious), a Recorder, Treasurer, Captain of the Guard, Conductor, Steward, and Sentinel, and as many members as may be convenient, congregating and working by virtue of a warrant held under the Grand Council, and at the place designated in the warrant or by the Grand Council.

Resolved, That Section 5 of Article II, be amended so as to read: "No Council under this jurisdiction shall confer the degrees in a less interval than two weeks from the time of receiving the proposition, except by dispensation from the Grand Master, as hereinbefore provided for."

T. I. Comp. Mead offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Insignia and Jewels embody in such regulations as they may report concerning the same, the stations of the various officers of Councils.

The Committee on Warrants presented the following Reports, which were received, and the resolutions accompanying the same were adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations respectfully report, that they have examined the returns and noted the requests of Oneida Council, U. D., at Rome, N. Y., and cheerfully recommed the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to T. I. George F. Bicknell, Master, R. I. Sanford Adams, Deputy Master, and I. Harman G. Utley, Principal Conductor of the Works, and others, to hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the Village of Rome, County of Oneida, and State of New York, by the name and style of Oneida Council, No. 12.

W. T. Marvin }
S. W. Thomas, } Committee.
R. G. Millard, }

New York, June 6th, A. Dep. 2860.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

In the matter of a Petition for a Dispensation or Warrant from nine companions of well known high standing at Buffalo, Erie County, State of New York, and in answer to their prayer, your Committee on Warrants and Dispensations do respectfully report and earnestly recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to Companions William Gould, as Master; James McCredie, as Deputy Master; James Inglis, as Principal Conductor of the Works; and six others, in said petition, named to form and hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters, in the City of Buffalo, County of Erie, and State of New York, to be known and designated as Buffalo Council, No. 17.

W. T. Marvin, }
S. W. Thomas, } Committee.
R. G. Millard, }

New York, June 6th, A. Dep. 2860.

Bills for $52,62 and for $17.00 were read and referred to the Finance Committee, and if found correct, ordered paid.

On motion, a committee was ordered appointed to procure a room for the further meetings of this Grand Council.

The M. P. appointed as such committee R. P. Comps. Shove, Marvin and McKeon.

The Grand Council then took a recess until 8.30 o'clock, P. M.

GRAND COUNCIL AS UNITED.

8.30 o'clock, P. M.

The United Grand Council met. R. P. Comp. Godfrey, the Master of the oldest Council, in the East. Present:

M. P. Comp. N. O. Benjamin.....P. G. M.
M. P. Comp. Jno. B. Willis.....P. G. M.
M. P. Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers.....P. G. M.
R. P. Comp. Vincent W. Bate.....P. Dep. G. M.
R. P. Comp. Augustus Willard.....P. Dep. G. M.
R. P. Comp. Wm. W. Sexsen.....P. Dep. G. M.
R. P. Comp. George Godfrey.....P. Dep. G. M.
R. P. Comp. Bradley Parker.....P. G. Ill. M.
R. P. Comp. J. B. Harris.....P. M.
R. P. Comp. Josiah Shove.....P. M.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Columbian, No. 1.	Oneida, No. 12.
Brooklyn, No. 4.	Central City, No. 13.
Adelphic, No. 7.	Bloss, No. 14
Eureka, No. 8.	Bruce, No. 15.
Kane, No. 11.	Southern Tier, No. 16.

Buffalo, No. 17.

On motion, M. P. Comp. N. O. Benjamin was elected to preside over United Grand Council until the annual election for officers shall have been held.

The M. P. announced the appointment of the following Committees:

On Credentials and Returns:—R. P. Comp. J. Shove, R. P. Comp. R. G. Millard and R. P. Comp. J. B. Harris.

On Finance:—Ill. Comp. John Cameron, T. I. Comp. Wm. Mead and T. I. Comp. S. H. Stone.

On Insignia and Jewels:—T. I. Comp. S. H. Stone, R. I. Comp. George Babcock and T. I. Comp. S. W. Thomas.

On Constitutions and General Regulations:—R. P. Comp. V. W. Bate, T. I. Comp. C. E. Gillett and T. I. Comp. William Mead.

On Jurisprudence:—R. P. Comp. Geo. Godfrey, R. P. Comp. Bradley Parker and R. I. Comp. H. F. Phillips.

M. P. Comp. Sommers, from the Committee on the death of M. P. Comp. Dunlap, of Maine, presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, and the resolutions accompanying it were adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York.

The Committee to whom was referred the sad duty of expressing in a series of Resolutions, on behalf of this Grand Council, its sense of the great loss sustained by the Fraternity in the death of the Hon. Robert P. Dunlap, of Maine, would repectfully offer for consideration and adoption the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, It has pleased our Supreme Grand Master, whose "ways are to us unsearchable and past finding out" again to lay His hand upon our Fraternity, and to snatch by a sudden and afflicting Providence from our mystic circle one of the purest and noblest patrons of the Order; therefore,

Resolved, That in the death of the beloved and venerated Robert P. Dunlap, Most Puissant Past Grand Master of Maine, we experience the loss, as individuals, of a friend and father; and as Masons of a wise and experienced counselor and guide, whose long life of usefulness and fidelity to his Masonic professions had endeared him to his brethren, and whose place cannot soon, or easily be filled.

Resolved, That we hereby tender to the Grand Council of Maine, and especially to the family and personal friends of our departed and lamented brother, who are most heart-stricken at the loss we have all sustained, our most earnest sympathies with them in their great bereavement.

Resolved, That the R. P. Grand Recorder be, and he is hereby directed, to send duly authenticated copies of the foregoing preamble and these resolutions to the family of our departed friend and brother, as well as to the M. P. Grand Council of Maine.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

J. B. Yates Sommers,
Geo. Babcock,
Charles H. Platt, } Committee.

Dated, New York, June 6th, 1860.

On motion, the election of officers was made the special order for 8.30 o'clock, to-morrow evening.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That when this Grand Council adjourns, it do so to meet at 594 Broadway, at 3.30 o'clock P. M., to-morrow.

The Grand Council then took a recess.

Thursday, June 7th, 3.30 o'clock, P. M.

The United Grand Council resumed its session.

Present: M. P. Comp. N. O. Benjamin; Officers and Representatives of the United Grand Council as before.

M. P. Comp. Benjamin made the following appointments *pro tem:*

R. P. Comp. Godfrey.....as Dep. Grand Master.
R. P. Comp. W. T. Marvin....as Grand Ill. Master.
T. I. and Rev. Comp. C. H. Platt.as G. P. C. of the W.
T. I. Comp. S. H. Stone.....as Grand C. of the G.
R. P. Comp. J. Shove.....as Grand Recorder.

The Committee on Installation Service presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M., of the State of New York.

Your Committee to whom was referred, at the last Annual Assembly, the duty of preparing a suitable service for the installation of the officers of this Grand Body, and of the Subordinate Councils under this jurisdiction, as well as an Order of Ceremonies for the Constitution and dedication of Councils of R. and S. Masters, would respectfully report, that they have had the subjects so referred to them under their careful consideration, and now beg leave to submit the following as the result of their labors:

INSTALLATION OF THE OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

At the time appointed for the Installation, the Grand Council being regularly opened, the Chair must be taken by some Grand or Past Grand Master; or, if none be present, by the highest Grand or Past Grand Officer, who is, or has been, a presiding officer in a Subordinate Council.

The R. P. Grand Marshal shall then introduce the Grand Master-elect to the Installing officer, saying:

Most Puissant:—I present to you Companion ————, who having been duly elected Grand Master of the Grand Council of the State of New York, for the ensuing Masonic year, now declares himself ready for installation.

The Installing officer shall then address the members of the Grand Council, saying:

Companions of the Grand Council:—Companion ————, having been duly elected to preside over you, as your Grand Master, now declares himself ready for Installation. If any of you can show just cause why he should not be installed, you will make your objections now known, or forever hold your peace. If objections are made, the Grand Council shall proceed at once to hear and determine the same.

If no objections are made, he shall continue to say:

No cause being shown to the contrary, I shall now proceed to install him.

The installing officer shall then administer the following obligation of office, all the Companions standing:

I, ————, do solemnly promise and swear, that I will serve as Grand Master of the Grand Council of the State of New York, for the term for which I have been elected, and will, to the best of my abilities, faithfully discharge the duties appertaining to that office. I do furthermore promise and swear, that I will support and maintain the Constitution of this Grand Council and inviolably preserve the ancient landmarks of the Order, So help me God.

The Grand Council shall then offer the following prayer:

O thou most holy and omnipotent Lord God of Heaven and Earth; we do most humbly beseech Thee to smile upon and bless this Grand Council, now assembled. Sanctify unto each one of us now present the transactions of this hour. Make us humble and thankful recipients of all the bounties Thou art continually bestowing upon us, and move our hearts with impulses of tenderness and charity towards all men, and especially towards those who have wrought with us their regular hours in the secret vault. Bestow upon us, we beseech Thee, a portion of Thine infinite Wisdom, and especially upon him who has been selected to preside over this Grand Council. Take from him all pride of heart, stubbornness of will, and self-sufficiency of understanding, and all vanity, ostentation, and arrogance, if any such he have, and give him in their stead a meekness and lowliness of heart, and a kindness and gentleness of disposition, that shall cause him to rule and govern his Companions with love and affection, and in Thy fear.

And we pray Thee, O Lord God, that when our labors here are over, and the hour of everlasting rest has arrived, we may be received into the Grand Council above, and hear the thrilling welcome, Come, ye blessed of my Father, into the mansions prepared for you, from the beginning of the World. Amen.

The installing officer then invests the Grand Master elect with the insignia of his office, and proceeds with the following

CHARGE:

By the voice of your Companions, you have been elevated to the highest office within their gift, and as they rely with entire confidence upon the rectitude of your intentions, and the integrity of your character, it becomes your duty to set them an example of diligence, industry and fidelity; to see that the officers associated with you faithfully perform their respective duties, and that the reputation and interests of this Grand Council are not endangered by imprudence or neglect.

The important trust committed to your charge will call for your best exertions, and the exercise of your best faculties. As the representative of the wise King of Israel, it will be your duty to recite the secret traditions, to illustrate the moral principles of the Order, to cherish the worthy, and to hold in due veneration the ancient landmarks of our time-honored institution.

The purple robe, the crown and the sceptre, are emblems of union and authority. They are to indicate to you while you govern your Companions with mildness, firmness and impartiality, you are to teach them lessons of union and harmony, which are the chief supports in our great Masonic edifice. And as you are seated in the East, the place of light and heat, so you are to be the source of light and heat to those under your charge. Enlighten them with a knowledge of our traditions, our forms and ceremonies; the signification of our tools and emblems, and the general arts and mysteries of our Craft; and impart to them a portion of the warmth of zeal and devotion that burns in your own bosom.

By a frequent recurrence to the Constitution of this Grand Council, and the general regulations of the Fraternity, together with a constant observance of the great principles inculcated in the various lectures and charges, you will be enabled to fulfill the important obligations resting upon you, with honor to yourself, and credit to the Craft. And may He, without whose approving smiles our labors are all in vain, give strength to your endeavors and support to your exertions.

The Grand Master-elect shall then take his seat in the East and assume the gavel. After which (all the Companions standing), the Grand Captain of the Guard shall make proclamation, thus:

Companions:—In the name of the Most High God, I do proclaim Most Puissant Companion ————, Grand Master of the Grand Council of the State of New York, for the term prescribed by the Constitution.

The remaining Officers-elect, standing in order before the Officiating Officer shall then make the following declaration:

I, ————, do solemnly promise, that I will faithfully and to the best of my ability, discharge the duties of the office to which I have been elected, and that I will strictly conform to the requirements of the Constitution of the Grand Council of the State of New York, together with the General Regulations of the Order, so far as they may come to my knowledge.

After which, the Officers-elect shall kneel (the rest of the Companions present standing), while the R. P. Grand Chaplain repeats the following

PRAYER:

Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, the Great Architect of Heaven and Earth, we approach Thee with reverence, and implore Thy blessing on these Companions selected to assist our presiding officer in conducting the business of this Grand Council, and now prostrate before Thee. Fill their hearts with Thy fear, that their tongues and actions may promote Thy glory. Make them steadfast in Thy service. Grant them wisdom, that they may teach Thy judgments and Thy laws; animate their hearts and strengthen their endeavors. Bless them, O Lord, and bless the work of their hands. Accept us in mercy. Hear Thou from Heaven, Thy dwelling-place, and forgive our transgressions. Amen.

Response:—So mote it be.

The R. P. Grand Marshal will now present each of the remaining Grand Officers-elect in order, according to rank, when they shall be charged by the Installing Officer, respectively, as follows:

(After each charge, the R. P. Grand Marshal shall conduct the officer-elect, so charged, to his proper position in the Grand Council Chamber.)

CHARGE TO THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

Right Puissant Companion ————. Have you attended to the important obligation taken by your superior, and do you promise to support all the ancient charges and regulations as freely and fully as he has done? Answer—I do.

The duties of the important office to which your Companions have elected you will require your constant and earnest attention. You are to occupy the second seat in this Grand Council, and it will be your duty to aid and support your chief in all the requirements of his office. In his absence, you will be called upon to preside in the Grand Council, and to discharge all those important duties which now devolve upon him. Let it, therefore, be your unremitting study to acquire such a degree of knowledge and information, as will enable you, when called upon, to discharge with promptness and propriety all those important duties annexed to your station.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER.

Right Puissant Companion:—You have been elevated to the third office in the Grand Council. The duties of the important office to which your Companions have elevated you will require your constant and earnest attention. It will be your duty to aid and support your superior officers in all the requirements of their offices. In their absence you will be called upon to preside in the Grand Council and to discharge all the important duties annexed to that station. Although the representative of a King, you should never forget that in all the duties you owe to God, your neighbor, and yourself, you stand upon the same level of equality with the rest of your Companions. Let the bright example of your illustrious predecessor in the Grand Council at Jerusalem, stimulate you to the faithful performance of every duty, and when the King of kings shall summon you to His immediate presence, from His hand may you receive a crown of glory that shall never fade away.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORKS.

Right Puissant Companion:—As the fourth officer of this Grand Council, it will be your duty to sound the silver trumpet at early dawn and eve of day, when the sun's first and last beams gild the mountain-tops, to announce high noon, and proclaim the time of rest and labor.

In the absence of your superiors, you will be required to perform their duties; and as the interest of the Grand Council should

never be permitted to suffer through want of intelligence in its officers, you will allow me to urge upon you the necessity of being always qualified and prepared to meet the emergency, should any arise. Having been admitted to the fellowship of Kings, you will be frequently reminded that the office of mediator is both honorable and praiseworthy. Let it, therefore, be your constant care to preserve harmony and unanimity of sentiment among the members of the Grand Council. Discountenance whatever may tend to create division and dissensions among the Companions in any of the departments of Masonry. And as the glorious sun at its meridian dispels the mist and clouds that obscure the horizon, so may your exertions tend to dissipate the mist of jealousy and discord, should any such ever unfortunately arise.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND RECORDER.

Right Puissant Companion:—It is with much pleasure that I instal you into the office to which you have been elected by your Companions. The qualities which should recommend a Recorder are correctness in recording the proceedings; judgment in discriminating between what is proper and what is improper to be written; regularity in attendance upon the Grand Council; integrity in accounting for all moneys that may pass through his hands, and fidelity in paying the same over to the Grand Treasurer. The possession of these qualities, I have no doubt, has designated you as a suitable Companion for this important office. I have the utmost confidence, therefore, that you will discharge all the duties incumbent on you with fidelity and honor. May God grant that when you shall have completed the record of your transaction here below, you may be admitted into the Grand Council above, and find your name recorded in the Book of Life.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND TREASURER.

Right Puissant Companion:—You have been elected to an important and responsible station in this Grand Body. It will be your duty to number and weigh out the shekels of the sanctuary, and to provide for the helpless and the destitute. The qualities which should distinguish you, are accuracy and fidelity—accuracy in keeping a true and fair account of the receipts and disbursements; fidelity in carefully preserving the property and funds of the Grand Council, and in rendering a just account of the same when required. Your interest in this Grand Council, your attachment to the Craft, and your known integrity of character, are a sufficient guarantee that these duties will be faithfully performed.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD.

Right Puissant Companion:—Having been appointed Captain of the Guard of this Grand Council, I present you with the insignia of your office. Guard well your post, and suffer none to pass in but the select, the faithful and the true. Be ever attentive to the commands of your Chief, and be always near at hand to see them duly executed.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND CHAPLAINS.

Right Puissant and Rev. Companions:—You have been appointed Chaplains of this Grand Council. Your good inclinations will undoubtedly aid you in the performance of those solemn services which created beings should constantly render to their Great Creator, and which, when offered by one whose holy profession it is to point to Heaven and lead the way, may, by refining our morals, strengthening our virtues and purifying our minds, prepare us for admission into the presence of our Supreme Grand Master, where happiness will be as perfect as it is endless.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND MARSHAL.

Right Puissant Companion:—The office to which you have been appointed is one of much importance in the proceedings of this Grand Council. In the discharge of the duties appertaining to it, and with which you are familiar, be fervent and zealous. Let uprightness and integrity attend your steps; let justice and mercy mark your conduct and predominate in all your actions through life. You will now assume your station.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND STEWARD AND SENTINEL.

Puissant Companions:—You are appointed respectively to the office of Grand Steward and Sentinel of this Grand Council, and I now invest you with the implements of your office. As the sword is placed in the hands of the Sentinel to enable him to guard the sanctuary and entrance to the secret passage with sleepless vigilance against intruders, so should it morally serve as a constant admonition to us all to set a guard at the entrance of our thoughts, to place a watch at the door of our lips, to post a sentinel at the avenues of our actions, thereby excluding every unworthy thought, word, and deed, and enabling us to preserve our consciences void of offence towards God and man. You will now assume your respective stations.

CHARGE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

Companions:—From the nature of the constitution of every society, some must of necessity rule, and others obey. And while justice and moderation are required of the officers, in the discharge of their official duties, subordination and respect for their rulers are equally demanded of the members. The relation is reciprocal; the interest of both are inseparable; and without mutual co-operation, the labors of neither can succeed. A house divided against itself cannot stand. Let, therefore, brotherly love prevail among you, let each be emulous of the others in all good works and in no other way. Let the avenues of your passions be strictly guarded; let no curious intruder find his way into the secret recesses of your retirement to disturb the harmony which should ever prevail among the select and chosen. In so doing you will secure the prosperity of this Grand Council, the respect of your Companions, the commendations of your own consciences, and finally the approval of your Supreme Grand Master, and a Crown of Life.

The Grand Marshal shall then make the following

PROCLAMATION:

I am directed by the Most Puissant Grand Master to proclaim, and I do hereby proclaim, the officers of the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York duly and regularly installed in Ample Form.

The Right Puissant Grand Chaplain shall then offer the following or suitable prayer, which shall conclude the ceremonies of installation of the Grand Officers:

To Thee, O God, we now commend ourselves, and the varied interests committed to our charge. Ever keep and preserve this Grand Council in purity and usefulness, and may its proceedings tend to Thy glory and the benefit of our race. Amen.

Response:—So mote it be.

ORDER OF CEREMONIES IN CONSTITUTING AND DEDICATING COUNCILS OF R. and S. MASTERS.

The new Council shall assemble in their Hall and be called to order by their presiding officer.

The Grand Council will meet and open in an adjoining room. A committee from the new Council shall inform the Right Puissant Grand Marshal that the new Council is prepared to receive the Grand Council. The Grand Marshal will announce the same to the Most Puissant Grand Master.

The Committee shall then conduct the Grand Council to the hall of the new Council, where they shall be received with the usual honors.

The Officers of the new Council shall then resign their seats to the Grand Officers, and cause their jewels to be laid upon the altar and covered.

An ode shall then be sung, or an appropriate piece of music be performed; after which the Right Puissant Grand Chaplain shall repeat the following, or some other suitable form of

PRAYER:

Almighty and Supreme Architect of the Universe, Maker and Ruler of all things, who is there in Heaven but Thee, and who upon earth can stand in competition with Thee? Thine omniscient mind brings all things in review, past, present and to come. Thine omnipotent arm directs the movements of the vast creation. Thine omnipresent eye pervades the secret recesses of every heart. Thy boundless beneficence supplies us with every comfort and enjoyment. Thy unspeakable perfections and glory surpass the understanding of the children of men. We do most humbly invoke Thy special blessings upon the purpose of our present assembly. Let this Council be established to Thy honor and glory. May its officers be endowed with wisdom to discern, and fidelity to pursue its true interests. May its members be ever mindful of the duty they owe to their God, the obedience they owe to their superiors, the love they owe to their equals, and the good-will they owe to all mankind. May this Council be erected to Thy glory, and may its members ever exemplify their love to Thee by their beneficence to their fellow-man, and eventually enjoy the rewards of a well-spent life in the sacred sanctuary on high. Glory be to God, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Response:—So mote it be.

Should time permit, an oration, or some suitable address, may now be delivered.

The Grand Marshal shall then address the Grand Master, in words following, viz:

Most Puissant Grand Master:—A constitutional number of Companions, duly instructed in the sublime mysteries, having received from the Grand Council a Charter, authorizing them to open and hold a regular Council of Royal and Select Masters in this place, are now assembled for the purpose of being legally constituted and solemnly dedicated in Ample Form.

The Charter granted the new Council shall then be read by the Right Puissant Grand Recorder.

The Grand Master will then address the Companions forming the new Council as follows:

Companions:—Do you accept the Charter, which has just been read in your hearing by the Right Puissant Grand Recorder, and do you promise to perform all the requirements therein contained, conforming in all your Masonic workings to the Constitution, By-Laws and General Regulations of the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York?

The answer being in the affirmative, the Grand Master shall proceed as follows:

By virtue of the high power in me vested as Grand Master of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, I do now form and constitute you, my worthy Companions, into a regular Council of Royal and Select Masters, by the name of ———— Council, No. ———; and I hereby authorize and empower you and your successors to open and hold said Council, and to do and perform all such things as may appertain thereunto, conforming in all things to the Constitution, By-Laws and General Regulations of the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York. And may the God of our Fathers be with you, to guide and direct you in all your doings. Amen.

Response:—So mote it be.

An Ode or Hymn shall then be sung, or a suitable piece of music performed, during which the Grand Marshal shall uncover the Jewels.

The following Dedicatory Declaration shall then be pronounced by the Right Puissant Grand Master:

To our Ancient and Most Puissant Grand Master Solomon, King of Israel, we solemnly dedicate this Council. May the blessings of Him, who presides in the Grand Council above, rest upon all the members thereof, and may He so direct their labors that His name may be magnified now and ever. Amen.

Response:—So mote it be.

The following proclamation shall then be made by the Grand Marshal:

I am directed by the Most Puissant Grand Master to proclaim, and I do hereby proclaim this Council by the name of ———— Council, No. ———, duly constituted and dedicated this ——— day of ——— A. D., ———.

Should it be deemed desirable, another suitable piece of music may be now performed, when the ceremonies shall close with the following benediction, to be pronounced by the Grand Chaplain:

BENEDICTION.

May the blessing of the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob rest upon and be with you always, now and forever. Amen.

Response:—So mote it be.

Should any other officer than the Grand Master officiate at the dedicatory ceremonies, the word ample is to be omitted wherever it occurs in the service, and in place thereof shall be used the words "in due and ancient form."

INSTALLATION OF THE OFFICERS OF A SUBORDINATE COUNCIL.

Officers of Subordinate Councils may be installed by any present or Past Grand Officer, or by any present or Past Thrice Illustrious Master in good standing in any regularly constituted Council of Royal and Select Masters.

The Council being duly assembled and in working order, the installing officer shall direct the Recorder to read so much of the records as refer to the election of the officers presenting themselves for installation. After which he shall say:

Companions of ————Council, No. ———, do you remain satisfied with the choice you have made in the selection of your officers for the ensuing Masonic year?

The answer being in the affirmative, the officers elect shall be arranged by the Marshal (an officer to be appointed for the occasion) in due form in front of the installing officer, when they shall be required to make the following

DECLARATION.

I, ————, do solemnly promise that I will faithfully and to the best of my ability, discharge the duties of the office to which I have been elected in this Council, and that I will strictly conform to the requirements of the By-Laws of this Council and the Constitution and General Regulations of the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York, so far as they may come to my knowledge.

The officers-elect shall then resume their seats among the Companions.

The following, or some suitable prayer shall then be delivered by the Chaplain:

PRAYER.

Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, the Great and Mighty Father of all men, we, Thy humble servants, desire to approach Thee with all reverence and to implore Thy blessing upon the Companions selected to preside over and conduct the affairs of this Council and now before Thee. Fill their hearts, we beseech Thee, with Thy fear, that their tongues and actions may promote Thy glory. Make them steadfast in Thy service. Grant them firmness of mind. Animate their hearts, and strengthen their endeavors. May they be enabled to teach Thy judgments and Thy laws. Bless them, O Lord, and bless the work of their hands. Accept us in mercy. Hear Thou from Heaven, Thy dwelling place, and forgive our transgressions. Glory be to God, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Response:—So mote it be.

The Marshal will then present the officers-elect severally according to rank for installation.

Addressing the installing officer by his proper Masonic title, he shall say:

————, I present to you Companion ————for installation as ———— of this Council. I find him to be well skilled in the Royal Mysteries, zealous in diffusing the sacred principles of our fathers, and in whose integrity and fidelity his Companions of ————Council, No. ——, repose the highest confidence.

The installing officer will then complete the ceremonies by delivering the following Address and Charges, severally, to the officers-elect, as they are severally presented to him, according to rank, by the Marshal.

ADDRESS AND CHARGE TO THE MASTER.

Thrice Illustrious Companion:—I feel great pleasure in receiving you as the presiding officer of this Council. It is a station highly honorable to him who diligently and faithfully performs the duties it imposes upon him. Before investing you, however, with the appropriate insignia of your office, I must require your unequivocal assent to the following interrogatories:

1. Do you solemnly promise that you will use your best endeavors to correct the vices and purify the morals of your Companions, and to promote the peace and prosperity of your Council?

2. That you will not suffer your Council to be opened when there are less than nine or more than twenty-seven Select Masters present?

3. That you will not suffer any one to pass the circle of perfection in your Council in whose integrity, fervency and zeal you have not entire confidence?

4. That you will not acknowledge or hold intercourse with any Council that does not work under some regular and Constitutional authority?

5. That you will not admit a visitor into your Council, who has not been regularly and lawfully invested with the degrees conferred therein, without his having previously been formally healed?

6. That you will faithfully observe and support such By-Laws as may be made by your Council, in conformity with the Constitution and General Regulations of the Order?

7. That you will pay due respect and obedience to the Grand Officers, when duly installed, and sustain them in the discharge of their lawful duties?

8. Do you submit to these requirements, and promise to observe and practice them faithfully?

Response:—I do.

With entire confidence in the rectitude of your intentions, and in the integrity of your character as a Select Master, I now invest you with the appropriate insignia of your office. Having been honored with the free suffrages of your Companions, and elevated to the highest office within their gift, it becomes your duty to set them an example of diligence, industry, and fidelity; to see that the officers associated with you faithfully perform their respective

duties, and that the interest and reputation of your Council are not endangered by imprudence and neglect. The important trusts committed to your charge will call forth your best exertions, and the exercise of your best faculties.

As the representative of the wise King of Israel, it will be your duty to recite the secret traditions, and illustrate the moral principles of the Order, to cherish the worthy, and hold in due veneration the ancient land-marks.

By a frequent recurrence to the By-Laws of your Council, and the General Regulations and Constitution of the Grand Council, you will be enabled to fulfill the important obligations, resting upon you with honor to yourself and with credit to the Craft.

And may He, without whose approving smiles our labors are all in vain, give strength to your endeavors and support to your exertions.

CHARGE TO THE DEPUTY MASTER.

Right Illustrious Companion:—Having been elected to the second office in this Council, I, with great pleasure, invest you with the insignia of your office. The duties of the important office to which your Companions have elevated you will require your constant and earnest attention. You are to occupy the second seat in the Council, and it will be your duty to aid and support your chief in all the requirements of his office. In his absence you will be called upon to preside in the Council, and to discharge all the important duties annexed to his station. Although the representative of a King, and elevated in rank above your Companions, yet may you never forget, that in all the duties you owe to God, your neighbor, and yourself, you and they stand upon the same level of equality. Let the bright example of your predecessor in the Grand Council at Jerusalem stimulate you to the faithful performance of every duty, and when the King of Kings shall summon you to His immediate presence, may you receive from His hand a crown of glory that shall never fade away.

CHARGE TO THE PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORKS.

Illustrious Companion:—As the third officer of this Council, I now invest you with the insignia of your office. It is your duty to sound the silver trumpet at early dawn and eve of day, when the suns first and last beams gild the mountain-tops, to announce high noon and proclaim the time of rest and labor.

In the absence of either of your superior officers, you will be required to perform the duties annexed to his station respectively; and as the interest of your Council ought never to suffer from the want of intelligence in its officers, you will allow me to urge upon you the necessity of being always qualified and fully prepared to meet the emergency, should it ever arise.

Having been admitted to the fellowship of Kings, you will be frequently reminded that the office of mediator is both honorable and praiseworthy. Let it, therefore, be your constant care to preserve harmony and unanimity of sentiment among the members of your Council. Discountenance whatever may tend to create divisions and dissensions among the brethren in any of the departments of Masonry. And as the glorious sun, at its meridian, dispels the mist and clouds that obscure the horizon, so may your exertions tend to dissipate the mist of jealousy and discord, should any such ever unfortunately arise in your Council.

CHARGE TO THE RECORDER.

Companion:—I now invest you with the insignia of your office. The qualities which should distinguish you in discharging the various duties annexed to your station are, correctness in recording the proceedings of your Council; judgment in discriminating between what is proper and what is improper to be written; regularity in making the returns to the Grand Council; integrity in accounting for all moneys that may pass your hands, and fidelity in paying the same over to the Treasurer. The possession of these qualities has designated you as a suitable Companion for the important office to which you have been elected, and I entertain no doubt, but that you will discharge all the duties incumbent on you with fidelity and honor. And when you shall have completed the records of your transactions here below, and finished the term of your probation, may you be admitted to the Grand Council above, and find your name recorded in the book of life.

CHARGE TO THE TREASURER.

Companion:—You have been elected to a very important and responsible office in this Council, and I now, with pleasure, invest you with the insignia of your office. It is your duty to number and weigh out the shekels of the sanctuary and to provide for the helpless orphan. The qualities which should distinguish you are accuracy and fidelity; accuracy in keeping a fair and true account of the receipts and disbursements; fidelity in carefully preserving the property and funds of the Council, and in rendering a just account of the same when required.

Your interest in this Council, your attachment to the Craft and your known integrity of character, are a sure guarantee that your duties will be faithfully performed.

CHARGE TO THE CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS.

Companion:—Having been appointed Captain of the Guards in this Council, I present you with the insignia of your office. Guard well your post, and suffer none to pass it but the select, the faithful and the worthy. Be ever attentive to the commands of your chief and be always near at hand to see them duly executed.

CHARGE TO THE CONDUCTOR.

Companion:—The office to which you have been appointed is one of much importance in the proceedings of this Council. In the discharge of the duties appertaining to it, and with which you are doubtless familiar, be fervent and zealous; you will thus secure the respect and esteem of your Companions, and the approbation of your own conscience. You will now assume your station.

CHARGE TO THE CHAPLAIN.

Rev. Companion:—You have been appointed Chaplain of this Council. Your good inclinations will undoubtedly aid you in the performance of those solemn services which created beings should constantly render to their Great Creator, and which, when offered by one whose holy profession it is to point to Heaven and lead the way, may, by refining our morals, strengthening our virtues, and purifying our minds, prepare us for admission into the presence of our Supreme Grand Master, where happiness will be as perfect as it is endless.

CHARGE TO THE MARSHAL.

Companion:—The duties of your office require but little elucidation. It is your duty, in connection with the Conductor, to attend to the examination of visitors, and to take special care that none are permitted to enter but such as have proved their title to our favor and friendship. I present you with the implement of your office, in the confident belief that it is intrusted to competent and faithful hands.

CHARGE TO THE STEWARD AND SENTINEL.

Companions:—You have been appointed to the office of Steward and Sentinel respectively, and I now, with pleasure, invest you with the appropriate insignia of your offices. Let the sword placed in your hands serve as a constant admonition to you

to set a guard at the entrance of your thoughts, to place a watch at the door of your lips, to post a Sentinel at the avenues of your affections, thereby excluding every unworthy thought, word, and deed, and enabling you to preserve your consciences void of offence towards God and man.

CHARGE TO THE COUNCIL.

Worthy and beloved Companions:—From the nature of our beloved institution, some must of necessity rule and others obey. And while justice and moderation are required of the officers in the discharge of their official duties, subordination and respect for their rulers are equally demanded of the members. The relation is reciprocal. The interests of both are inseparable, and without mutual co-operation the labors of neither can succeed. Let the avenues to your passions be strictly guarded. Let no curious intruder find his way into the secret recesses of your retirement, to disturb the harmony which should ever prevail among the select and the chosen. In so doing you will best secure the prosperity of your Council, the respect of your Companions and the commendation of your own conscience.

The installing officer shall then make the following declaration:

By virtue of the powers in me vested, I do now declare the officers of ——————Council, No. ———, regularly installed, in due and ancient form.

The Chaplain shall then conclude the installation ceremonies by delivering the following, or some suitable form of

PRAYER:

Eternal and ever blessed Jehovah, most humbly do we beseech Thee to look down with an eye of favor upon this Council, now assembled before Thee. Bless, if it shall please Thee, the proceedings of this hour, and grant that every transaction of this Body may tend to Thy glory and to our advancement in knowledge and virtue and to Thy great name shall be ascribed eternal praises, world without end. Amen.

Response:—So mote it be.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. B. Yates Sommers,
Josiah Shove, } Committee.
Bradley Parker,

Dated, New York, June 7th, 1860.

The Committee on Insignia and Jewels presented the following Report, which was received, and on motion, it was adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

Your Committee, to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's Address as refers to Insignia and Jewels, also the resolution offered by T. I. Comp. Mead, in regard to the rank and stations of the Officers of a Council, would respectfully report:

That they have given the subject that attention which its importance demands, and have prepared a series of drawings of the Jewels of the Officers of Grand and Subordinate Councils, which they herewith submit as a part of this report; and that they have drawn up the following Regulations in regard to the matters intrusted to their charge, which they now present for your consideration:

STATIONS, INSIGNIA AND JEWELS OF THE OFFICERS OF THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL.

FIRST—STATIONS.

The Station of the Grand Master is in the East; of the Deputy Grand Master on the right of the Grand Master; of the Grand Illustrious Master, on the right of the Deputy Grand Master; of the Grand Principal Conductor of the Works, on the left of the Grand Master; of the Grand Recorder, in front of the Grand Principal Conductor of the Works; of the Grand Treasurer, in front of the Grand Illustrious Master; of the Grand Captain of the Guard, in the West; of the Grand Chaplain on the left of the Grand Principal Conductor of the Works; of the Grand Marshal, in the South; of the Grand Steward, at the door inside; and of the Grand Sentinel, at the door outside.

SECOND—INSIGNIA.

The Insignia of each of the officers of this Grand Council consists of a Collar, or hanging for the Jewel, of purple velvet, trimmed with gold lace and fringe and of an apron of the same material with the appropriate Jewel wrought in the centre thereof.

THIRD—JEWELS.

The Jewels of all the officers of this Grand Council are in-

closed in a triangle, which is encircled by a wreath, the whole to be of gold or some metal resembling it in color. In the triangle worn by the Grand Master is suspended the Square, Compasses and Trowel; in that of the Deputy Grand Master, a Square and Trowel; in that of Past Grand Masters, the Compasses extended upon an arc of 60 degrees, with the Trowel in the centre; in that of the Grand Illustrious Master, the Trowel and Level; in that of the Grand P. C. of the Works, the Trowel and Plumb; in that of the Grand Recorder, the Trowel and Cross Pens; in that of the Grand Treasurer, the Trowel and Cross Keys; in that of the Captain of the Guard, the Trowel and Battle-axe; in that of the Grand Chaplains, the Trowel and Holy Bible open; in that of the Grand Marshal, the Trowel and Baton crossed upon the scroll; in that of the Grand Steward, the Trowel and Cross Swords; and in that of the Sentinel, the Trowel and Scimeter crossed.

STATIONS, INSIGNIA, DRESSES AND JEWELS OF OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS.

FIRST—STATIONS.

The Station of the Master is in the East; of the Deputy Master, on the right of the Master; of the Principal Conductor of the Works, on the left of the Master; of the Recorder, in front of the Principal Conductor of the Works; of the Treasurer, in front of the Deputy Master; of the Captain of the Guard, in the West; of the Conductor of the Council, near the South, on the right; of the Chaplain, on the left of the Principal Conductor of the Works; of the Marshal, near the South, on the left; of the Steward, at the door inside; and of the Sentinel, at the door outside.

SECOND—INSIGNIA.

The hangings for Jewels are of purple and may be trimmed with gold; the Aprons are of lambskin, trimmed with purple.

THIRD—DRESSES.

The Master is clothed in a Robe of Royal Purple trimmed with ermine, a Crown upon his head and a Sceptre in his hand; the Deputy Master, in a Robe of Scarlet trimmed with ermine, a Crown upon his head and a Sceptre in his hand; the Principal

Conductor of the Works in a Robe of Yellow, a Turban on his head and a Trowel in his hand; and the Captain of the Guard in the military dress of the Eastern nations 3,000 years ago. All the other officers are clothed in Purple Tunics and Turbans with a Trowel in one hand and a Sword in the other.

FOURTH—JEWELS.

The Jewels of each of the officers of a Subordinate Council are suspended in a triangle and are as follows, viz: that of the Master, the Square, Compasses and Trowel; that of the Deputy Master, the Trowel and Level; that of the Principal Conductor of the Works, a Trowel and Plumb; that of the Past Master, a Trowel and the Compasses extended on an arc of sixty degrees; that of the Recorder, the Trowel and Cross Pens; that of the Treasurer, the Trowel and Cross Keys; that of the Chaplain, the Trowel and open Bible; that of the Captain of the Guard, the Trowel and the Battle-axe crossed; that of the Conductor of the Council, a Trowel; that of the Marshal, the Trowel, Baton and Scroll; that of the Steward, the Trowel and Cross Swords; and that of the Sentinel, the Trowel and Scimeter crossed.

INSIGNIA OF MEMBERS OF COUNCILS.

The members of a Subordinate Council wear a Lambskin or White Apron, trimmed with purple.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Seymour H. Stone,
Geo. Babcock,
S. W. Thomas,
} Committee.

New York, June 7th, 1860.

T. I. and Rev. Comp. Platt presented the following resolution, which was on motion, received and referred to the first three officers, with power:

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be instructed to represent to the Grand Council of Vermont the propriety of exercising the most vigilant caution in conferring the Royal and Select Master's Degrees upon persons who may be reasonably presumed to be legitimately subject to the jurisdiction of this Grand Council.

R. P. Comp. Bate, from the Committee on Constitutions and General Regulations, presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and unanimously adopted:

The Committee on Constitutions beg leave to report, that they have compared the two Constitutions now in force in this United Grand Council, viz: The Constitutions of Royal Master Masons of the State of New York, adopted A. L. 1823, An. Dep. 2823; and the Constitutions of Royal and Select Masters, adopted A. L. 5855, An. Dep. 2855, together with the "Articles of Union" adopted by this United Grand Council at this Annual Assembly; and they are of the opinion that inasmuch as the respective Constitutions conflict in one or two particulars, and your Committee being desirous to see this Grand Council heart and hand, an unit, do recommend the following for your adoption; and moreover, that if unanimously adopted, shall be considered abiding clauses in the Constitution of this Grand Council until amended, as further provided by the Constitution:

That Article I, Section 3, of Constitution of 1823, wherein it says, "This Grand Council shall be held in the City of New York, on 21st day of June, in each year, when the election of officers shall take place, etc., etc.," shall read, instead of 21st June, "at such time and place as the Grand Council shall from time to time designate."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Vincent W. Bate,
William Mead, } Committee.
Charles E. Gillett,

The Committee on Constitutions, to whom were referred the following resolutions, to wit:

1. *Resolved*, That Article I, Section 4, of the Constitutions, be amended, so as to read as follows, viz.: "The first six officers of this Grand Council shall be elected at the Annual Assembly, by ballot and by a majority of votes; and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master, and hold office during his pleasure; but no Companion shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Illustrious Master, or Grand Principal Conductor of the Works, unless he shall be a Present or Past Master of a Subordinate Council; provided, nothing herein

shall be so construed as to render ineligible any Companion who has heretofore served in either of those offices."

2. *Resolved*, That Article II, Section 6, be amended so as to read: "The first five officers of a Subordinate Council hereinbefore named, must be chosen annually by ballot, and by a majority of votes, at the Regular Assembly immediately preceding the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, and must be installed on or before the next Regular Assembly thereafter; and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the Master and hold office during his pleasure."

3. *Resolved*, That the Constitutions of this Grand Council be amended by striking out the words "Thrice Illustrious," where they or either of them occur in Article I, Sections 1, 2 and 6, and in Article II, Sections 7, 8 and 9; and inserting the word "Deputy" in place of the words Right Illustrious, hereby stricken out.

4. *Resolved*, That Article II, Section 1, be amended so as to read as follows: "A Council of Royal and Select Masters shall consist of a Master, (whose style is Thrice Illustrious;) a Deputy Master, (whose style is Right Illustrious;) a Principal Conductor of the Works, (whose style is Illustrious;) a Recorder, Treasurer, Captain of the Guards, Conductor, Steward and Sentinel, and as many members as may be convenient, congregating and working by virtue of a Warrant held under the Grand Council and at the place designated in the Warrant, or by the Grand Council."

5. *Resolved*, That Section 5, of Article II, be amended so as to read: "No Council under this jurisdiction shall confer the degrees in a less interval than two weeks from the time of receiving the proposition, except by Dispensation from the Grand Master, as hereinbefore provided for."

Would report in favor thereof, and recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Grand Council approve the foregoing amendments to the Constitution and give their affirmative vote thereto, and that this Grand Council do so far adopt and sanction the same as it is in their power to adopt and sanction any amendment in view of Article II, Section 14, of the Constitutions of Royal and Select Masters.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Vincent W. Bate,
Charles E. Gillett, } Committee.
William Mead,

On motion, a committee of two was ordered appointed to act in conjunction with the Grand Master in collating the various amendments made to the Constitutions, to be published with the proceedings of this Annual Assembly.

The M. P. appointed as such committee: R. P. Comps. V. W. Bate and J. Shove.

T. I. and Rev. Comp. Platt offered the following resolution, prefacing it with eloquent and feeling remarks upon the effect which the union of this, the highest branch of Ancient Craft Masonry, must have upon the influence of the Fraternity at large; and, on motion, the resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, the consolidation of the Craft in the jurisdiction of this United Grand Council has been happily accomplished:

Resolved, That this Grand Council would gratefully and reverentially commit to its record the acknowledgment of this signal favor from the G. A. O. T. U., for the preservation of that harmony which in all His beneficent purposes, is designed to irradiate the counsels of His secrecy.

Resolved, That this Grand Council recommends to each of the Subordinate Councils within its jurisdiction the unanimous adoption of a resolution expressing the same devout acknowledgment, which has been by the above resolution ordered upon record.

On motion, a committee of three was ordered appointed to prepare a History of the Grand Council of the State of New York from its inception to the present time; said committee to report at the next Annual Assembly.

The M. P. appointed as such committee R. P. Comp. Vincent W. Bate, M. P. Comp. Jno. B. Willis and M. P. Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers.

The Finance Committee presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York.

Your Finance Committee would report that they have examined the accounts and vouchers of the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer, and find the same correct, as appears by their reports.

They would also recommend that warrants be drawn for the bills presented of $52.62 and of $17.00.

Respectfully submitted,

John Cameron,
Wm. Mead,
S. H. Stone,
} Finance Committee.

On motion, a committee was appointed to fix the compensation of the Grand Recorder and Grand Sentinels.

The M. P. appointed as such committee: M. P. Comp. J. B. Y. Sommers and T. I. Comps. S. H. Stone and C. E. Gillett.

R. P. Comp. Bate from the Committee on Constitutions and General Regulations, presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York.

Your Committee, to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's Address which relates to Rules of Order and Order of Business for the Grand Council, at its Annual Assemblies, would report that they have had the subject under consideration, and have drawn up a Code of Rules as follows, which they respectfully submit to you for your action thereon:

RULES OF ORDER.

1. At the stroke of the Grand Master's Gavel there shall be a general silence; and he who breaks silence without leave from the presiding officer, shall be subject to a public reprimand.

2. Under the same penalty, every Companion shall keep his seat, and observe strict silence whenever the Grand Master shall call to order.

3. No Companion is to speak more than once to the same question, unless by permission.

4. If, in the Grand Council, any member is twice called to order, at one Assembly, for transgressing these rules, and is guilty of the third offence of the same nature, the Grand Master may peremptorily order him to leave the Council Chamber for that session.

5. Whoever shall be so rude as to ridicule any Companion, or what another says, or has said, may be forthwith solemnly excluded the Assembly, and declared incapable of ever being a member of this Grand Council, unless he publicly own his fault and he be excused.

6. All motions are to be decided by a majority of votes, each member having one vote, each Council having three votes, and the Grand Master two votes, in case an equal number shall require his decision.

7. The opinions of votes of the members may be signified by holding up the left hand, unless some member shall call for a vote by Councils, which shall be sustained by at least three members.

8. All members shall keep their places, except the Grand Captain of the Guard and Grand Marshal, who are allowed to move from place to place, in the discharge of their duties.

9. Every one who speaks shall rise and remain standing, addressing himself to the Grand Master; and no member shall interrupt him, unless to call him to order; but after he has been set right he may proceed, if he observe due order and decorum.

10. In case of the absence of the Grand Illustrious Master and Grand Principal Conductor of the Works, when they, or either of them shall be entitled to take the chair by succession, the Past Grand Officer present, who is highest in rank, (if his office shall have been elective), shall take it; and in case of the absence of both Present and Past Grand Officers entitled to take the chair, the Master of the Senior Subordinate Council present shall take it.

11. Every proposition offered for consideration shall be in writing, if required by any member.

12. At any Annual Assembly of the Grand Council, the following Standing Committees shall be appointed, to consist of three members each:

1. A Committee on Credentials of Members and Returns of Councils.

2. A Committee on Warrants and Dispensations.

3. A Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

4. A Committee on the Constitution and By-Laws of Councils. To this Committee shall be referred all propositions to amend the Constitutions, General Regulations and Rules of the Grand Council; also all questions relative to the usages, privileges, customs and work of the Fraternity.

5. A Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

6. A Committee on Finance.

7. A Committee on Unfinished Business of the previous Annual Assembly.

13. The Standing Committees shall not sit while the Grand Council is actually in session, unless on leave obtained, and shall all report at the same Assembly at which they were appointed, and be discharged at the close thereof, unless otherwise ordered, except the Committee on Foreign Correspondence and the Committee on Unfinished Business.

14. The following shall be the Order of Business and proceedings of the Grand Council, at each session of the Annual Assembly, except that the second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth shall not be observed after the first session:

1. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

2. Calling the Roll of Councils by the Grand Recorder.

3. The usual ceremonies of opening the Grand Council in Ample Form.

4. Reading and approving the Minutes of any previous Special Assembly of the Grand Council, not before read and approved.

5. Address of the Grand Master and action thereon.

6. Report of the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer and action thereon.

7. Appointments of Committees.

8. Reports upon Credentials of Members.

9. Reports on Unfinished Business of the previous Assembly.

10. Presentation and reference, or other disposition of Memorials, Petitions and Communications.

11. Motions and Resolutions, and reference or other disposition of the same.

12. Reports of Standing Committees, and action thereon; the Committees on Foreign Correspondence and Constitution and By-Laws having the preference.

13. Reports of Special Committees and action thereon.

14. Special Orders (if any.)

15. Consideration of Amendments to the Constitution, General Regulations and Rules (if any.)

16. Unfinished Business of previous sessions (if any.)

17. Miscellaneous Business, not included in the above.

18. Reading and approval of the Minutes of the session.

15. Should the Order of Business not be concluded at the session at which it is first called, it shall be commenced at the succeeding session where it was left off, and so on throughout the Assembly; taking up the Order of Business as in Rule 14, again when once finished, and going through with it in the same manner: Provided, nevertheless, that the reading and approval of the minutes shall be the last business in order at each session; and that the appointment of a time for, and the election and installation of officers, and the lectures, shall be in order at any time designated by the Grand Council.

16. At each session of the Annual Assembly the Grand Council shall determine the time of holding the next session.

17. The Rules of Order shall not be suspended at any time except by unanimous consent.

18. These Rules may be amended at any time by a vote of two-thirds of the Grand Council.

19. All former Rules of Order of the Grand Council, inconsistent herewith, are hereby abrogated.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Vincent W. Bate, }
Wm. Mead, } Committee.
Chas. E. Gillett, }

New York, June 7th, 1860, A. Dep. 2860.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder be authorized to have five hundred copies of the Proceedings printed, and that he distribute the same in the usual manner.

The Committee appointed to fix the compensation of the Grand Recorder and Grand Sentinels reported in favor of paying the Grand Recorder fifty dollars and the Grand Sentinels seven dollars, and the committee discharged.

R. P Comp. Godfrey from the Committee on Jurisprudence, presented the following Report:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the M. P. Grand Master's Address in relation to certain decisions made by him during the past year, respectfully report, that decision 1st be adopted, being a correct view of the matter presented.

2d and 3rd. The Committee coincide with the view taken by M. P. G. M.

4th. The Committee would suggest that no such power be given to Subordinate Councils as alluded to in the M. P. G. Master's Address, so as to prevent dissensions and unfavorable conclusions.

5th. The Committee would recommend that a time, say at least one month, elapse before a candidate can again be proposed as a member of a Council after he has once been rejected.

All of which is submitted by your Committee.

Bradley Parker, }
Geo. Godfrey, } Committee.
H. F. Phillips, }

New York, June 7th, A. D. 1860.

And on motion, the report was received and the 1st, 2d and 3rd recommendations were adopted; and the 4th and 5th recommendations, together with the decisions of the Grand Master, were referred to the Committee on Constitutions and General Regulations.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented the following Report which was, on motion, received and adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

Your Committee on Credentials and Returns would report, that they have examined the returns of the various Councils and find them correct, and that the following Past Grand Officers and Representatives are entitled to seats in this Grand Council:

M. P. Nathan O. Benjamin.....P. G. M.
M. P. John B. Willis.....P. G. M.
M. P. J. B. Yates Sommers.....P. G. M.
M. P. H. F. L. Bunting.....P. G. M.
M. P. Jonathan Jarvis.....P. G. M.
R. P. Augustus Willard.....P. Dep. G. M.
R. P. Charles Watkins.....P Dep. G. M.
R. P. Wm. W. Nexsen.....P. Dep. G. M,
R. P. George Godfrey.....P. G. Ill. M.
R. P Wm. H. Norris.....P. G. Ill. M.
R. P. J. T. Brush.....P. G. Ill. M.
R. P. Bradley Parker.....P. G. Ill. M.
R. P Robert Roberts.....P. G. P. C.
R. P. Vincent W. Bate.....P. G. P. C.
R. P. W. T. Marvin.....P. G. P. C.
R. P. David Wagstaff.....P. G. P. C.
R. P. John B. Harris.....P. T. Ill. M.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....P. T. Ill. M.

Columbia Council, No. 1, { .....George Godfrey, M.
.V. W. Bate, P. C. of W.
Brooklyn Council, No. 4.....Joseph Wright, M.
Adelphic Council, No. 7 { .....S. W. Thomas, M.
.....H. F. Phillips, Dep. M.
John Cameron, P. C. of W.
Eureka Council, No. 8.....Augustus Willard, M.
Grass Valley Council, No. 10.No representative present.
Kane Council, No. 11.....William Mead, M.
Oneida Council, No. 12....H. C. Vogell, proxy for M.
Central City Council, No. 13.....S. H. Stone, M.
Bloss Council, No. 14, { .....Richard Bloss, M.
.....Geo. Babcock, Dep. M.

Bruce Council, No. 15.....C. H. Platt, M.
Southern Tier Council, No. 16.....C. E. Gillett, M.
Buffalo Council, No. 17.....William Gould, M.

Respectfully submitted,

Josiah Shove, }
R. G. Millard, } Committee.
J. B. Harris, }

New York, June 7th, 1860.

On motion, the Grand Council took a recess until 8 o'clock, P. M.

Thursday, June 7th, 8 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Council resumed its session. Present: M. P Comp. Benjamin, Officers and Representatives as before.

M. P Comp. J. B. Y. Sommers offered the following amendment to Section 4, Article I, of the Constitution, which was laid on the table:

Section 4, Article I, after the word "votes" insert "unless there shall be but one companion put in nomination for an office, when the vote may be taken by show of hands."

The hour having arrived for the special order, being the election of officers for the ensuing year, the Grand Council proceeded to such election; R. P Comp. Geo. Godfrey and T. I. Comp. S. W. Thomas being appointed Tellers.

M. P. Nathan O. Benjamin was unanimously elected.Grand Master.
T. I. Seymour H. Stone was elected.Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. Vincent W. Bate was elected.....Grand Ill. Master.
T. I. C. H. Platt was elected.....Grand P. C. of the W.
R. P. Josiah Shove was elected..... ....Grand Recorder.
R. P. John B. Harris was elected.....Grand Treasurer.

M. P. Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers installed the Grand Master elect, and the Grand Master then installed the remaining officers.

The Grand Marshal then proclaimed the installation of the officers of the M. P. Council of Royal and Select Masters, in Ample Form.

The Grand Master then announced the following appointments:

T. I. Richard Bloss.....Grand C. of the G.
T. I. Charles E. Gillett.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. Henry G. Vogell....Grand Chaplain.
P. Joseph Wright.....Grand Steward.
P. Greenfield Pote.....Grand Sentinel.

M. P. Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers, R. P. Comp. V. W. Bate and R. P. Comp. J. Shove as Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council be held in the City of New York, on the first Tuesday in June, A. D. 1861, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M. at such place in said city as may be selected by the Executive Officers of this Grand Council.

The Amendment to the Constitution offered by M. P. Comp. J. B. Y. Sommers was taken from the table and on motion, it was adopted, so far as it could be at this Annual Assembly.

The Grand Master appointed as Commitee on Unfinished Business of the Grand Council:

R. P. Comp. C. H. Platt, R. P. Comp. S. H. Stone and R. P. Comp. J. B. Harris.

On motion, a committee of three was ordered appointed, of which the Grand Master should be chairman, to complete the set of Regalia and Jewels for the use of this Grand Council.

The M. P. appointed as such committee M. P. Comp. N. O. Benjamin, R. P. Comp. J. Shove, and R. P. Comp. J. B. Harris.

The Committee on Constitutions and General Regulations presented the following Report, which was on motion accepted and adopted:

The Committee on Constitutions, to whom was referred the consideration of the mode to be pursued towards those who may have received the degrees of R. and S. M. from a Chapter of R. A. M. and therefore in an illegal and clandestine manner, beg to report, that in such case the M. P. Grand Master should be empowered to direct such a process of healing as is vested by ancient usage in the Grand Master of any other Masonic body.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Vincent W. Bate,
Wm. Mead, } Committee.
Chas. E. Gillett,

No further business appearing the Grand Council was closed with prayer, and in Ample Form.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

MONEYS RECEIVED DURING THIS ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Brooklyn, No. 4. Dues	$9.68
Adelphic, No. 7. Dues	74.31
Eureka, No. 8. Dues	5.50
Grass Valley, No. 10. Dues	15.00
Kane, No. 11. Dues	19.94
Kane, No. 11. Balance on Warrant	10.00
Oneida, No. 12. Dues	5.56
Oneida, No. 12. Balance on Warrant	10.00
Central City, No. 13. Dues	17.69
Central City, No. 13. Balance on Warrant	10.00
Bloss, No. 14. Dues	9.37
Bloss, No. 14. Balance on Warrant	10.00
Bruce, No. 15. Dues	15.40
Bruce, No. 15. Balance on Warrant	10.00
Southern Tier, No. 16. Dues	9.93
Southern Tier, No. 16. Balance on Warrant	10.00
Buffalo, No. 17. Warrant	30.00
	$272.38

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Section 4, Article I. After the word "votes" insert, "unless there shall be but one Companion put in nomination for an office, when the vote may be taken by show of hands," so that the Section will read, "the first six officers of this Grand Council shall be elected at the Annual Assembly, by ballot and by a majority of votes; unless there shall be but one candidate put in nomination for an office, when the vote may be taken by show of hands; and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master, and hold office during his pleasure; but no Companion shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Illustrious Master, or Grand Principal Conductor of the Works, unless he shall be a present or Past Master of a Subordinate Council; provided nothing herein shall be so construed as to render ineligible any Companion who has heretofore served in either of these offices."

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL, 2860-2861.

M. P. Nathan O. Benjamin, Grand Master. New York

R. P. Seymour H. Stone, Dep. Gd. Master. . Syracuse

R. P. Vincent W. Bate, Gd. Illus. Master. . New York

R. P. Charles H. Platt, Gd. P. C. of the W. . . Auburn

R. P. Josiah Shove, Grand Recorder. . . . New York

R. P. John B. Harris, Grand Treasurer. . . . Brooklyn

R. P. Richard Bloss, G. C. of G. . . . . Troy

R. P. Charles E. Gillett, Grand Marshal. . . . . Elmira

R. P. and Rev. Henry C. Vogell, Gd. Chaplain. Rome

P. Joseph Wright, Grand Steward. . . . . Brooklyn

P. Greenfield Pote, Grand Sentinel. . . . New York

Sewal T. Fisk, Grand Lecturer. . . . . New York

Grand Master, N. O. Benjamin. Artisan's Bank, New York

Grand Recorder, J. Shove. . . . . 31 Nassau St., New York

N. B.—Documents sent to the Grand Master or Grand Recorder at New York should have the address as above.

Officers of the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons of the State of New York

From its Institution in Eighteen hundred and seven

Showing the date and day of the week on which the elections were held

Date.	Grand Master.	Deputy Grand Master.	Grand Warden. Gr. Illus. Master.
1807	Thomas Lownds	Records lost.	
1808	Thomas Lownds		
1809	Thomas Lownds		
1810. Sept. 2; Sun.	Thomas Lownds	John E. Ruckell	William Craig
1811. June 21; Fri.	Thomas Lownds	Robert Young	John Utt
1812. June 21; Sun.	Thomas Lownds	Robert Young	S. O. Smith
1813. June 21; Mon.	Thomas Lownds	Robert Howard	John Utt
1814. June 21; Tues.	Thomas Lownds	Robert Howard	John Utt
1815. June 21; Wed.	Thomas Lownds	Asa Hall	Robert Young
1816. June 21; Fri.	Thomas Lownds	Edward Higgins	Lewis Seymour
1817. June 21; Sat.	Thomas Lownds	Edward Higgins	Gerrit Morgan
1818. June 28; Sun.	Thomas Lownds	Levi Nathan	Silas Lyon
1819. July 7; Mon.	Thomas Lownds	John G. Munn	Gerrit Lansing
1820. June 21; Wed.	Silas Lyon	Gerrit Lansing	Hosea Dodge
1821. June 21; Thur.	Silas Lyon	Gerrit Lansing	Hosea Dodge
1822. June 21; Fri.	Oliver M. Lownds	William F. Platt	W. Bedell
1823. June 21; Sat.	Thomas Lownds	Edward Higgins	Gerrit Morgan
1824. June 21; Mon.	Thomas Lownds	Edward Higgins	Gerrit Morgan

1825.	June 21; Tues.	Oliver M. Lownds	Edward Higgins	Gerrit Morgan
1826.	July 12; Wed.	Gerrit Morgan	William F. Platt	Henry Marsh
1827.	June 21; Thur.	William F. Platt	Henry Marsh	F. L. Wilsey
1828.	June 21; Sat.	Henry Marsh	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds
1829.	June 20; Sat.	Henry Marsh	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds
1830.	June 21; Mon.	Henry Marsh	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds
1831.	June 15; Wed.	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds	J. B. Bailey
1832.	June 21; Thur.	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds	J. B. Bailey
1833.	June 21; Fri.	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds	J. B. Bailey
1834.	June 21; Sat.	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds	J. B. Bailey
1835.	June 20; Sat.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1836.	June 21; Tues.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1837.	June 21; Wed.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1838.	June 21; Thur.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1839.	June 21; Fri.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1840.	June 20; Sat.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1841.	June 21; Mon.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1842.	June 21; Tues.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	Jared L. Moore
1843.	June 21; Wed.	Richard Ellis*	Fred'k. W. Leeds	Jared L. Moore
1844.	June 21; Fri.	Fred'k. W. Leeds	Samuel Maverick	Anthony Chapple
1845.	June 21; Sat.	Fred'k. W. Leeds	Anthony Chapple	Sewall Fisk
1846.	June 20; Sat.	Fred'k. W. Leeds	Anthony Chapple	Sewall Fisk
1847.	June 21; Mon.	Fred'k. W. Leeds	Anthony Chapple	Sewall Fisk
1848.	June 21; Wed.	Fred'k. W. Leeds	Anthony Chapple	Jonathan Jarvis
1849.	June 29; Fri.	Jonathan Jarvis	C. W. Carpenter	Charles Watkins
1850.	June 21; Fri.	Jonathan Jarvis	C. W. Carpenter	Charles Watkins

Officers of the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons of the State of New York

From its Institution in Eighteen hundred and seven

Showing the date and day of the week on which the elections were held

Date.		Grand Master.	Deputy Grand Master.	Grand Warden. Gr. Ill. Master.
1851.	June 21; Sat.	Jonathan Jarvis	C. W. Carpenter	Charles Watkins
1852.	June 21; Mon.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	Wm. H. Norris
1853.	June 21; Tues.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	Wm. H. Norris
1854.	June 22; Tues.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	Wm. H. Norris
"	June 19; Sat.	M. J. Drummond	J. B. Y. Sommers	John J. Tinsdale
1855.	July 2; Mon.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	Wm. H. Norris
"	June 6; Wed.	J. B. Yates Sommers	H. F. L. Bunting	John J. Tinsdale
1856.	June 21; Sat.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	Wm. H. Norris
"	June 4; Wed.	Henry F. L. Bunting	Thos. C. Edwards.	James T. Brush
1857.	June 20; Sat.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	John B. Willis
"	June 3; Wed.	John J. Tinsdale	Thos. C. Edwards.	N. O. Benjamin
1858.	June 21; Mon.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	John B. Willis
"	June 3; Thur.	N. O. Benjamin	Thos. C. Edwards	Augustus Willard
1859.	June 21; Tues.	John B. Willis	Wm. W. Nexsen	George Godfrey
"	June 8; Wed.	N. O. Benjamin	Augustus Willard	Bradley Parker
1860.	June 7; Thurs.	N. O. Benjamin	Seymour H. Stone.	Vincent W. Bate

*Died in office, Jan., 1844.

Officers of the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons of the State of New York

From its Institution in Eighteen hundred and seven

Showing the date and day of the week on which the elections were held

Date.	Grand Marshal. G. P. C. of W.	Grand Treasurer.	Grand Recorder.
1807	Records lost		
1808			
1809			
1810. Sept. 2; Sun.	John Marmed	Peter Roome	James Humbert
1811. June 21; Fri.	John P. Roome.....	Peter Roome	James Humbert
1812. June 21; Sun.	John E. Rich.....	John P. Roome.....	Peter Roome
1813. June 21; Mon.	John E. Rich.....	John P. Roome.....	Peter Roome
1814. June 21; Tues. ...	John E. Rich.....	John P. Roome.....	Peter Roome
1815. June 21; Wed.	Edward Higgins	John P. Roome.....	Peter Roome
1816. June 21; Fri.	Gerrit Morgan	John P. Roome.....	Peter Roome
1817. June 21; Sat.	Sam'l Maverick	William Craig	Silas Lyon
1818. June 28; Sun.	Joseph Potter	H. Westervelt	B. W. Peck
1819. July 7; Mon.	Joseph Potter	Silas Lyon	John W. Gibbs
1820. June 21; Wed.	Pierre T. Decevee.....	C. Bacon	Thomas Slade
1821. June 21; Thur. ...	Pierre T. Decevee.....	Ransom Beach	Thomas Slade
1822. June 21; Fri.	J. B. Camp.....	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1823. June 21; Sat.	Lewis Seymour	Lucius C. Bowles.....	Oliver M. Lownds
1824. June 21; Mon. ...	Lewis Seymour	Lebbens Chapman	Oliver M. Lownds

Officers of the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons of the State of New York

From its Institution in Eighteen hundred and seven

Showing the date and day of the week on which the elections were held

Date.		Grand Marshal. Gr. P. C. of W.	Grand Treasurer.	Grand Recorder.
1825.	June 21; Tues.	William F. Platt	Lebbens Chapman	Thomas Slade
1826.	July 12; Wed.	Camp'll Bushnell	Lebbens Chapman	Thomas Slade
1827.	June 21; Thur.	Cyrus Curtis	Lebbens Chapman	Thomas Slade
1828.	June 21; Sat.	J. Miller	Lebbens Chapman	Thomas Slade
1829.	June 20; Sat.	J. Miller	Lebbens Chapman	Thomas Slade
1830.	June 21; Mon.	J. Miller	Lebbens Chapman	Thomas Slade
1831.	June 15; Wed.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1832.	June 21; Thur.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1833.	June 21; Fri.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1834.	June 21; Sat.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1835.	June 20; Sat.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1836.	June 21; Tues.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1837	June 21; Wed.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1838.	June 21; Thur.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1839.	June 21; Fri.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1840.	June 20; Sat.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1841.	June 21; Mon.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1842.	June 21; Tues.	Samuel Maverick	Daniel West	Sylvester Spencer

1843.	June 21; Wed.	Samuel Maverick	Daniel West	Sylvester Spencer
1844.	June 21; Fri.	Wm. W. Nexsen	Daniel West	Sylvester Spencer
1845.	June 21; Sat.	Ransom Beach	Daniel West	Sylvester Spencer
1846.	June 20; Sat.	Ransom Beach	Daniel West	Wm. W. Nexsen
1847.	June 21; Mon.	Ransom Beach	Daniel West	Wm. W. Nexsen
1848.	June 21; Wed.	Ransom Beach	Daniel West	Wm. W. Nexsen
1849.	June 29; Fri.	John Scott	Daniel West	Wm. W. Nexsen
1850.	June 21; Fri.	Wm. W. Nexsen	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds
1851.	June 21; Sat.	Wm. W. Nexsen	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds
1852.	June 21; Mon.	John B. Willis	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds
1853.	June 21; Tues.	John B. Willis	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds
1854.	June 22; Tues.	John B. Willis	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds
"	June 19; Sat.	H. F. L. Bunting	D. S. Sinclair	Philip Pritchard
1855.	July 2; Mon.	John W. Willis	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds
"	June 6; Wed.	N. O. Benjamin	D. S. Sinclair	Robert Macoy
1856.	June 21; Sat.	John B. Willis	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds
"	June 4; Wed.	David Wagstaff	D. S. Sinclair	Robert Macoy
1857.	June 20; Sat.	Robert Roberts	Daniel West	Wm. J. Surre
"	June 3; Wed.	August Willard	John W. Simons	Josiah Shove
1858.	June 21; Mon.	Robert Roberts	Daniel West	William J. Surre
"	June 3; Thur.	Bradley Parker	Sam'l B. Tobey, Jr.	Josiah Shove
1859.	June 21; Tues.	Vincent W. Bate	Daniel West	William J. Surre
"	June 8; Wed.	Walter T. Marvin	R. G. Millard	Josiah Shove
1860.	June 7; Thurs.	Charles H. Platt	John B. Harris	Josiah Shove

NOTE From 1854 to 1859 inclusive, there were two Grand Councils, viz: The Grand Council of Royal Master Masons and The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, which were united in June, 1860, under the style and title of The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Council.	Master.	Deputy Master.	Prin. C. of W.	Recorder.
1 Columbian	George Godfrey	Allan A. Burns	Vincent W. Bate	William J. Surre
4 Brooklyn	Joseph Wright	J. S. Swan	George B. Flander	Richard Sharp
7 Adelphic	Sam'l W. Thomas	Henry F Philips	John Cameron	Nathan O. Benjamin
8 Eureka	Aug. Willard	S. S. Beckwith	Robert P Barnard	Peter B. Rathbone
10 Grass Valley	O. H. Dibble	Wm. McCormick	E. W. Spafford	A. B. Dibble
11 Kane	William Mead	Charles M. Zeh	Dennis W. Morris	G. F. Jocknick
12 Oneida	Geo. F. Bicknell	Sanford Adams	Harman G. Utley	Wm. Dickinson
13 Central City	Seymour H. Stone	Stiles M. Rust	Charles W. Snow	Geo. J. Gardner
14 Bloss	Richard Bloss	George Babcock	Charles Teson	Richard D. Bloss
15 Bruce	Chas. H. Platt	Charles Craig	Daniel A. Knapp	E. L. Blake
16 Southern Tier	Chas. E. Gillett	William Lee	Geo. S. McCann	Jesse L. Cooley
17 Buffalo	William Gould	James McCredie	James Inglis	

Abstract of Returns of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of the State of New York

Council.	Town.	County.	Received and greeted during the year	Affiliated during year	Dimitted during year	Stricken from roll	Died	Present membership
1 Columbian	New York	New York	----	----	----	----	--	27
4 Brooklyn	Brooklyn	Kings	5	----	1	----	--	31
7 Adelphic	New York	New York	81	1	47	7	--	154
8 Eureka	Greene	Chenango	----	----	----	----	-	22
10 Grass Valley	Grass Valley	Nevada, Cal.	11	----	----	----	--	20
11 Kane	Newark	Essex, N. J.	26	1	4	----	--	32
12 Oneida	Rome	Oneida	3	----	1	----	--	11
13 Central City	Syracuse	Onondaga	23	1	----	----	--	33
14 Bloss	Troy	Rensselaer	10	----	----	----	--	20
15 Bruce	Lockport	Niagara	22	----	----	----	--	31
16 Southern Tier	Elmira	Chemung	12	1	----	----	1	22
17 Buffalo	Buffalo	Erie	---	----	----	----	--	9
		Total	193	4	53	7	1	412

Statistical Table of Grand Councils in the United States

STATE	Year of organization	Number Councils at organization	LATEST TRANSACTIONS RECEIVED		No. Councils making returns	Received and greeted during the year	Affiliated during the year	Dimitted during the year	Suspended during the year	Expelled during the year	Stricken from the roll during the year	Died during the year	Number of members	Average members per Council
Alabama	1838	2	December	1859	23	....	....	...	....	....	....	....	681	30
Connecticut	1819	11	May	1859	11	57	....	1	...	1	....	9	769	70
Florida	1859	3	January	1860	6	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	*150	25
Georgia	1825	....	April	1859	15	87	1	20	....	1	....	1	471	31
Illinois	1853	3	September	1859	5	13	2	1	....	....	....	1	136	27
Indiana	1855	3	May	1859	10	68	1	20	....	....	....	3	322	32
Iowa	1857	3	October	1858	5	36	7	3	....	....	....	1	137	27
Kentucky	1827	....	October	1858	15	....	....	....	1	....	....	10	500	33
Louisiana	1856	4	February	1859	3	14	2	1	....	....	3	9	151	50
Maine	1855	3	May	1859	6	9	....	....	....	....	....	1	123	20

Massachusetts	1826	7		7	....	....	....	...	....	....	....	*400	57
Michigan	1858	3	January 1860	6	....	....	...	....	....	....	...	153	25
Mississippi	1856	7	May 1859	15	85	4	23	....	....	....	9	409	27
New York	1807	....	June 1860	12	193	4	53	....	...	7	1	412	34
Ohio	1829	....	October 1859	29	100	2	....	....	....	40	6	824	28
Pennsylvania	1847	4		13	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	*300	23
South Carolina	1860	...		...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Tennessee	1847	....	October 1858	12	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	*400	33
Texas	1856	4	June 1859	19	125	3	44	2	1	....	6	542	28
Vermont	1854	4	August 1859	10	50	...	2	....	....	....	4	404	40
Wisconsin	1857	3	October 1859	3	14	....	....	....	....	....	....	61	20
			Total...	225	851	26	168	3	3	50	61	7345	660

*Estimated.

Address of the Grand Masters and Grand Recorders

Of the Grand Councils of the United States

State	Grand Masters.	Address.	Grand Recorders.	Address.
Alabama	R. C. Torrey	Claiborne	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery
Connecticut	George Stancliff	Portland	E. G. Storer	New Haven
Florida	Thos. Hayward	Tallahassee	Jno. B. Taylor	Tallahassee
Georgia	Philip T. Schley	Savannah	Benj. B. Russell	Augusta
Illinois	C. W. Matheny	Springfield	H. G. Reynolds	Springfield
Indiana	William Hacker	Shelbyville	Francis King	Indianapolis
Iowa	William Leffingwell	Muscatine	W. B. Langridge	Muscatine
Kentucky	Philip Swigert	Frankfort	A. G. Hodges	Frankfort
Louisiana	John H. Holland	New Orleans	Samuel G. Risk	Box R48, N. O.
Maine	Abner B. Thompson	Brunswick	Ira Berry	Portland
Massachusetts	E. B. Moore, M. D.	Boston	George Butts	East Boston
Michigan	Frank Darrow	Pontiac	Nathaniel P. Jacobs	Detroit
Mississippi	Daniel Rosser	Grenada	Ro. W. T. Daniel	Jackson
New York	N. O. Benjamin	Artisan's Bank, N. Y.	Josiah Shove	31 Nassau St., N. Y.
Ohio	John M. Parks	Cincinnati	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati
Pennsylvania	Alfred Creigh	Washington	T. W. Wright	Pittsburg
South Carolina	A. G. Mackey	Charleston	H. W. Schroeder	
Tennessee	J. M. Lusher	Memphis	Charles A. Fuller	Nashville
Texas	B. B. Cannon	Rusk, Cherokee Co.	Andrew Neill	Sequin, Guadalupe Co.
Vermont	Stephen H. Peirce	Royalton	John B. Hollenbeck	Burlington
Wisconsin	A. Sidney Wood	Madison	S. G. Benedict	Madison

PREAMBLE.

We, the several Councils now hailing from and constituting the jurisdiction of the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, for the purpose of promoting harmony and brotherly love; advancing our Order; diffusing Masonic instruction, and regulating our labors by one uniform standard, do ordain and declare the following Articles to be the Constitutions of this Grand Council.

CONSTITUTIONS.

ARTICLE I.

OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

SECTION 1. This Grand Council shall be composed of a Grand Master, (whose style is Most Puissant), a Deputy Grand Master, Grand Illustrious Master, Grand Principal Conductor of the Works, Grand Recorder, Grand Treasurer, Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Chaplains, Grand Marshal, (the style of all of whom is Right Puissant), Grand Steward and Grand Sentinel, (whose style is Puissant.) All Past Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Illustrious Masters, Grand Principal Conductors of the Works, and all Masters, Deputy Masters, and Principal Conductors of the Works for the time being, of the several Councils under its jurisdiction, with all Past Masters of such Councils, so long as such Past Grand and subordinate officers shall remain members of any Council under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council.

SEC. 2. Each regular member of this Grand Council has one vote, and the acting Grand Master an additional vote in case of an equal division, and each Council is entitled to three votes, without reference to its representatives present; and a Grand Officer, Past Grand Officer, or a Past Master, may vote as such, and as a representative.

SEC. 3 Any Subordinate Council entitled to representation in this Grand Council, may appoint, as their proxy, any member of this Grand Council; provided always, that no one member shall represent more than two Subordinate Councils.

SEC. 4. The first six officers of this Grand Council shall be elected at the Annual Assembly, by ballot, and by a majority of votes; and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master and hold office during his pleasure. But no Companion shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Illustrious Master, or Grand Principal Conductor of the Works, unless he shall be a present or Past Master of a Subordinate Council; provided nothing herein shall be so construed as to render ineligible any Companion who has heretofore served in either of those offices.

SEC. 5. The Grand Council shall have the sole government and superintendence of the several Councils under its jurisdiction; shall have power to assign their limits; prescribe the fees for admission, and settle controversies that may arise between them. It shall also have power to grant Charters to new Councils within the State of New York; or in any other State or Territory unoccupied by a Grand Council.

SEC. 6. The Grand Master has power to convene any Council within this jurisdiction, to preside therein, to inspect their proceedings and require their conformity to Masonic rules; he may require the attendance of and information from, any Grand Officer, respecting his office; he may make Royal and Select Masters at sight, in a Council, and may, by written dispensation, delegate this power to the Master of a Council; he may grant dispensations for new Councils on proper application when the Grand Council is not in session; and during the recess of the Grand Council may exercise all its functions.

SEC. 7. In case of the death, absence, or inability of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Illustrious Master and Grand Principal Conductor of the Works will, in succession, succeed to his prerogatives and duties for all purposes.

SEC. 8. It shall be the duty of the Grand Recorder:

1. To record the transactions of the Grand Council;

2. To register the members of Councils under this jurisdiction, returned to him for that purpose, with the particulars set forth in such returns;

3. To receive, duly file and safely keep all papers and documents of the Grand Council;

4. To sign and certify all instruments from the Grand Council;

5. To prepare, for the Annual Assembly, a correct list of the officers, past officers and members of the Grand Council entitled to vote, together with the names and numbers of all Subordinate Councils entitled to representation in this Grand Council;

6. To receive and keep a proper account of all moneys belonging to the Grand Council, and pay over the same, without delay, to the Grand Treasurer;

7. To report annually to the Grand Council the amount of moneys received by him, by items, and the specific sources from which it was received; also the Councils that have neglected to render proper returns of their elections, members, and dues, and such general information as to the state of the Councils as may be proper for the information or action of the Grand Council;

8. To conduct the correspondence of the Grand Council under the direction of the Grand Master, and in a Masonic manner;

9. To attend, with all necessary writings, papers and documents under his control, on all assemblies of the Grand Council, on the requisition of the acting Grand Master; and also, to attend upon the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master, on Masonic business, when required;

10. To transmit to the several Grand Councils, in correspondence with this Grand Council, a certificate of the election of the Grand Officers, immediately thereafter, containing their signatures respectively, and authenticated under his hand and the seal of the Grand Council, with a request for a similar document from each of said Grand Councils, and

11. To attend to all such other matters and duties, as by Masonic usage appertain to his office.

Sec. 9. It shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer:

1. To take charge of all the funds, property, securities and vouchers to the Grand Council;

2. To pay all orders duly drawn and attested, under general regulations or special directions of the Grand Council;

3. To attend on the Grand Council or its presiding officer, when required, with the books and all necessary documents relating to his office; and to attend, when required, the meeting of any Committee whose duty it may be to act in relation to the fiscal affairs of the Grand Council;

4. To report annually to the Grand Council the amount of his receipts and expenditures by items, and from whom received and to whom paid, and the amount of securities in his hands, for funds invested by the Trustees;

5. To execute and file with the Grand Recorder an official bond with two or more sufficient sureties, to be approved by the Grand Master, conditioned that he will pay or deliver on demand to the Grand Council or to his successor

in office, all funds and property of the Grand Council that shall come into his possession as Grand Treasurer; and

6. To pay and deliver at the expiration of his term of office to his successor, or such person as shall be designated by the Grand Council, all moneys, securities, evidences of debt, books, writings, and property of the Grand Council under his control, with all proper assignments when necessary.

SEC. 10. It shall be the duty of the Grand Officers, whose duties have not been hereinbefore specifically set forth, to discharge such functions as, by ancient usage, pertain to their office.

SEC. 11. The Grand Council shall, by resolution, at each Annual Assembly, fix the time and place for holding the next Annual Assembly; but a special Assembly may be called, whenever the Grand Master, or any three of the other Grand Officers, may deem it necessary, and also, whenever it shall be required by a majority of the Councils under this jurisdiction, provided such requisition be made in writing to the Grand Master or his Deputy.

SEC. 12. It shall be the duty of the Grand Master, as soon after his installation as may be practicable, to appoint a committee of three to be called the Finance Committee, whose duty it shall be to superintend the financial concerns of the Grand Council, to audit all bills against it, and to certify them by their signatures, when correct, and to report at the Annual Assembly, or whenever required by the Grand Council.

SEC. 13. The Grand Master shall appoint, at the Annual Assembly, as soon after his installation as may be practicable, a Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be to attend the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council, and shall be a member thereof, and shall, during the session, exhibit to the members the standard of work which is approved and determined by the Grand Council for the practice of the Councils under its jurisdiction. It shall also be his duty to impart said Lectures to the said Councils, or to Companions authorized to receive them, whenever he shall be invited so to do, and may receive such compensation therefor as may be fixed by the Grand Council before his appointment, and which compensation shall not be changed during his cotinuance in office. He shall make an annual report of the state of proficiency of the Councils he may visit.

SEC. 14. The Grand Recorder, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Sentinel, shall receive such compensation as this Grand Council may, from time to time, determine upon.

SEC. 15. The revenues of this Grand Council shall be derived from the following sources:

For every Charter or Warrant	$30.00
For every Dispensation to form a new Council,	20.00
And if a Charter or Warrant is afterward granted, the additional sum of	10.00
For every Dispensation to confer the Degrees sight	1.00
For every other Dispensation	.50
For affixing the seal to every Grand Council Diploma	.50
For every Companion received and greeted in a Subordinate Council	.25
For adjoining fee of every Select Master	.25
Every Council shall pay for each of its members, annually	.25
For registry fee of every Select Master	.25

SEC. 16. Every Council shall be accountable to the Grand Council for the dues of each of its members embraced in its returns.

SEC. 17. The management of the permanent funds is vested in a Board of Trustees, denominated the "Trustees of the Permanent Fund," whose duty it shall be to take the best measures for the security and increase of said funds and of all the invested funds of this Grand Council and to invest from time to time, as a majority may decide upon, all money which shall come into the hands of the Grand Treasurer, after paying the necessary current expenses, and leaving in his hands such sum or sums for contingent purposes as the Grand Council may, from time to time, direct. The said Trustees shall deposit in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, the securities and vouchers of the said invested funds, and shall not have power to transfer, sell, dispose of, or appropriate any part of the invested or permanent fund, without a vote of the Grand Council at its Annual Assembly. Said Board of Trustees shall consist of three members of the Grand Council and shall be elected annually, at the Annual Assembly, by ballot, (unless it be unanimously resolved at the time to take the vote by show of hands), and by a majority of votes.

SEC. 18. There shall not be a greater number of Councils established in the State than there are Royal Arch Chapters, nor more than one Council within the jurisdiction of each Chapter.

SEC. 19. Any Council neglecting or refusing to make returns and pay dues for more than one year, shall be punished by the forfeiture of their warrant, and only restored by paying all back dues, and offering sufficient apology for violation of the constitutional regulations of this Grand Council.

SEC. 20. All governmental powers, whether executive, legislative, or judicial, not expressly delegated by the Grand Council, are inherent in and reserved to it as the Supreme governing body.

ARTICLE II.

REGULATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS.

SECTION 1. A Council of Royal and Select Masters shall consist of a Master, (whose style is Thrice Illustrious;) a Deputy Master, (whose style is Right Illustrious;) a Principal Conductor of the Works, (whose style is Illustrious;) a Recorder, Treasurer, Captain of the Guard, Conductor, Steward and Sentinel, and as many members as may be convenient, congregating and working by virtue of a Warrant held under the Grand Council, and at the place designated in the Warrant, or by the Grand Council.

SEC. 2. No Council of Royal and Select Masters in this State shall be considered legal, unless they have a charter from this Grand Council, or a dispensation from the Grand Master; and Masonic communication is hereby forbidden between any Council under this jurisdiction, or any member thereof, and any Council or Assemblage that may be working without such charter or dispensation, or with any of the individual members of such illegal Council or Assemblage, or with any Companion received or greeted therein until such Council or Councils, person or persons, shall have been regularly healed.

SEC. 3. The powers and privileges of a Subordinate Council are such as are defined in its warrant, by this Constitution or by the Ancient Landmarks.

SEC. 4. No Warrant of a Council can be forfeited except upon charges regularly made in the Grand Council at the Annual Assembly, of which due notice shall be given the Council, and an opportunity of being heard in defence, and then only for disobedience to this Constitution, ceasing to meet for one year or more, or for contumacy to the authority of the Grand Master, or Grand Council, but a warrant may be suspended by the Grand Council or Grand Master at any time, upon proper cause; which suspension shall not extend beyond the next Annual Assembly.

SEC. 5. No Council under this jurisdiction shall confer the degrees in a less interval than two weeks from the time of receiving the proposition, except by dispensation from the Grand Master, as hereinbefore provided for.

SEC. 6. The first five officers of a Subordinate Council, hereinbefore named, must be chosen annually, by ballot and by a majority of votes, at the regular Assembly immediately preceding the

Festival of St. John the Evangelist, and must be installed on or before the next regular Assembly thereafter; and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the Master and hold office during his pleasure.

SEC. 7. A Council may fill vacancies in office, except those of Master, Deputy Master, and Principal Conductor of the Works, at any stated Assembly, upon notice to the members; but in case of vacancy in the offices in this section mentioned, an election can only be held by virtue of a dispensation from the Grand Master, which is to be applied for by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, and is to be so certified by the Recorder.

SEC. 8. The Master shall not be responsible for his official acts, or otherwise, to the Council over which he presides; but shall be at all times subject to discipline from the Grand Council, or Acting Grand Master.

SEC. 9. It shall be the duty of a Recorder of a Council:

1. To record the proceedings of the Council under the direction of the presiding officer, which shall be read and approved by the Council before it is closed, and such proceedings shall be submitted to the Grand Council whenever required;

2. To receive all moneys paid into the Council and pay the same to the Treasurer;

3. To transmit immediately after every election a certificate thereof to the Grand Recorder;

4. To make a full and complete return to the Grand Council annually, (previous to the last Wednesday in May of each year), of all the members of the Council in the form hereafter mentioned in Section 13;

5. To certify and affix the seal of the Council to all returns and certificates of election rendered to the Grand Council; and

6. To attest the official signature of the Master to all other Masonic documents, when necessary.

SEC. 10. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of a Council:

1. To receive all moneys paid into the Council from the hands of the Recorder;

2. To keep a just and correct account thereof; and

3. To pay them out by direction of the presiding officer and consent of the Council.

SEC. 11. A Council has full power and authority to enact By-Laws for its own government, not unconsistent with this Constitution.

SEC. 12. No Council under this jurisdiction shall confer the degrees for a less sum than five dollars, nor upon any one who shall not have received in a regular manner, the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason.

SEC. 13. The Returns to the Grand Council shall contain the following items, viz:

1, Council number of each Companion; 2, Name; 3, Age; 4, Occupation; 5, Birth-place; 6, Residence; 7, Time of receiving the degrees; 8, Time of adjoining; 9, Lodge; 10, Chapter; 11, Council in which degrees were received; 12, Connection dissolved, when and by what; 13, Dues, viz.: Reception fees; Adjoining fees; Registry fees; and Quarterly dues.

ARTICLE III.

AMENDMENTS, ETC.

1. This Grand Council is competent at any time to alter or amend this Constitution on the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present at an Annual Assembly; provided, the proposed alteration shall have been submitted in writing at one Annual Assembly and laid over until the next for consideration, unless such proposition should be unanimously concurred in, and in that case it may be adopted at once.

2. No general regulation shall be adopted inconsistent with this Constitution; and all former written Constitutions and General Regulations heretofore made and adopted are hereby repealed.

FORM OF RETURN OF ELECTION.

The Certificate of Election should be in the following form, and must be filed in the Office of the Grand Recorder, before the elected officers of the Subordinate Councils can be recognized as members of the Grand Council.

Be it known, That on the———day of———A. Dep. 28——, at a regular Assembly of——————Council, No. ——, Comp. ————was elected Master; Comp.————, Dep. Master, and Comp. ————, Principal Conductor of the Works, for the ensuing year, and that the said officers have been duly installed.

In Testimony whereof, we, the members of said Council have caused the seal hereof to be hereunto affixed, and our Recorder to sign the name.

—————— Recorder.

of the Subordinate Councils should be in the following form, viz:

At a regular Assembly of————Council, No. ——, held on the ————day of ———A. Dep. 28—.

Resolved, That our Comp. ————, (Present or Past Grand Officer, Present or Past Master, as the case may be), be, and he is hereby appointed Proxy, to represent this Council in the Grand Council of the State of New York, and he is fully empowered to act in our behalf, in all the transactions of the Grand Council, as effectually as if we ourselves were personally present. All which we have caused to be certified by our first three officers, and the seal of our said Council to be affixed.

————————, Master.

————————, Dep. Master.

————————, P. C. of the W.

Attest, ————————, Recorder,

FORM OF A PETITION FOR A NEW COUNCIL.

To the M. P. Grand Council of the State of ————————.

The undersigned petitioners, being Royal and Select Masters, having the prosperity of the Fraternity at heart, and being willing to exert their best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Cryptic Masonry, respectfully represent, that they are desirous of forming a new Council in the town of ————————, County of ————————, and State of ————————, to be named ————————Council, No. ———.

They, therefore, pray for letters of dispensation, or a Warrant of Constitution, to empower them to assemble as a legal Council, to discharge the duties of Masonry in a regular and constitutional manner, according to the original forms of the Order, and the regulations of the Grand Council. They have nominated and do recommend Comp. A. B., to be the first Master; Comp. C. D., to be the first Dep. Master; and Comp. E. F., to be the first Principal Conductor of the Works of said Council. If the prayer of the petitioners shall be granted, they promise a strict conformity to the Constitution, Laws, and Regulations of the Grand Council. Dated at ————————, A. Dep. 28———.

N. B.—(The above petition must be signed by no less than nine Select Masters.)

GRAND COUNCIL—ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Grand Council Room, cor. Broadway and Thirteenth Street,

Tuesday, June 4th, 7.30 P. M., A. D., 1861, A. Dep. 2861.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, convened in Annual Assembly in the City of New York, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the last Annual Assembly, on Tuesday, June 4th, A. D. 1861, A. Dep. 2861. Present:

M. P. Nathan O. Benjamin.....Grand Master.
R. P. Seymour H. Stone.....Deputy Grand Master.
T. I. E. P. Breed, as .....Grand Illustrious Master.
R. P. and Rev. Chas. H. Platt..G. P. C. of the Work.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. John B. Harris.....Grand Treasurer.
T. I. M. Pinner, as.....Grand C. of the G.
R. P. Charles E. Gillett.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. Henry C. Vogell....Grand Chaplain.
T. I. Wm. Gould, as.....Grand Steward.
P. Greenfield Pote.....Grand Sentinel.
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.....Grand Lecturer.
M. P. J. B. Yates Sommers.....Past Grand Master.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Columbian, No. 1.	Central City, No. 13.
Brooklyn, No. 4.	Bloss, No. 14.
Adelphic, No. 7.	Bruce, No 15.
Eureka, No. 8.	Southern Tier, No. 16.
Oneida, No. 12	Buffalo, No. 17.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form by the M. P. Grand Master.

On motion of R. P. Comp. J. Shove, it was

Resolved, That all Companion Select Masters, in good standing in the Order, be invited to take seats as visitors in this Grand Council.

On motion of R. P. Comp. C. E. Gillett, the reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Assembly was dispensed with. The M. P. Grand Master then presented his Annual Address, which was, on motion of R. P. Comp. C. H. Platt, ordered to be spread at length upon the Minutes, and referred to a committee of three, to apportion the various subjects therein treated of to appropriate committees.

THE ADDRESS.

Companions of the Grand Council:

At this, the opening of the fifty-fifth Annual Assembly of the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York, we meet under extraordinary circumstances. Into the short space of time which has elapsed since last we assembled, the events of years seem to have been crowded.

Our government is struggling to maintain its integrity, the nation is engaged in a civil war, companion is arrayed in arms against companion and brother against brother, the Temple of James is opened and *horrida bella* stalks abroad.

In this trying emergency, it behooves us all to inquire what our duty as members of our ancient and time honored Fraternity requires of us; and to obtain light on this subject, I know of no better region to explore, than the most ancient laws promulgated for the government of the Craft in cases like the present.

The second of the Ancient Charges reads as follows: "A Mason is a peaceable Subject to the Civil Powers, wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concerned in Plots and Conspiracies against the Peace and Welfare of the Nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior Magistrates; for as Masonry hath been always injured by War, Bloodshed, and Confusion, so ancient Kings and Princes have been much disposed to encourage the Craftsmen, because of their Peaceableness and Loyalty, whereby they practically answered the Cavils of their Adversaries, and promoted the Honor of the Fraternity, whoever flourished in Times of Peace; so that, if a Brother should be a Rebel against the State, he is not to be countenanced in his Rebellion, however he may be pitied as an unhappy Man, and if convicted of no other Crime, though the loyal Brotherhood must and ought to disown his Rebellion and give no Umbrage or Ground of political Jealousy to the Government for the time being, they cannot expel him from the Lodge and his Relation to it remains indefeasible." This, to my mind, covers the whole ground and clearly points out our duty as Masons and members of a fraternity, one of whose objects is to promote peace and good-will throughout the world.

While war and tumult are without, peace reigns within the sacred retreats of the select throughout our great jurisdiction, and no case requiring the interference of the disciplinary powers of the Grand Master has been brought to my notice. Our Councils are as actively at work as is compatible with their healthful progress, and

I am gratified to see them exercising great caution in the selection of their material.

I have visited, and presided in during the year: King Hiram Council, U. D., at Auburn, De Witt Clinton Council, U. D., at Albany, Hudson River Council, U. D., at Rondout, Brooklyn Council, No. 4, at Brooklyn, Columbian Council, No. 1, Adelphic Council, No. 7 and Pennell Council, U. D., in New York; and it afforded me pleasure to witness the zeal and activity that most of them displayed in the acquirement of the work and lectures, as prescribed by this Grand Council.

DISPENSATIONS FOR NEW COUNCILS.

I have granted a number of dispensations for new Councils during the year, and I am sure, from the evidence in my possession, that in no case have our mysteries been intrusted to unworthy or improper hands.

On the thirteenth day of July, 1860, I issued letters of dispensation to T. Ill. Joseph M. Morris, Master, R. Ill. Thomas Y. How, Deputy Master; Ill. William H. Barnes, Principal Conductor of the Work, and six others, to open a Council to be called "King Hiram Council," and located in the City of Auburn, and County of Cayuga.

On the second day of November, 1860, I issued like letters of dispensaion to T. Ill. William E. Lathrop, Master; R. Ill. William F. Holmes, Deputy Master; Ill. Wm. S. Alling, Principal Conductor of the Work, and seventeen others, to open a Council in the City of Rochester, and County of Monroe, to be called "Doric Council."

On the twenty-second day of November, 1860, I issued like letters of dispensation to T. Ill. Michael Pinner, Master; R. Ill. William Fleming, Deputy Master; Ill. Abram S. Swartz, Principal Conductor of the Work, and six others, to open a Council in the City of Buffalo, and County of Erie to be called, "Keystone Council."

On the thirteenth day of December, 1860, I granted a dispensation to T. Ill. George F. Von Beck, Master; R. Ill. Johannis D. Hasbrouck, Deputy Master; Ill. Jackson H. Chase, Principal Conductor of the Work, and seven others, to form and open a Council in the City and County of Albany, to be called "De Witt Clinton Council."

On the eighteenth day of May, 1861, I issued like letters of dispensation to T. Ill. Enoch P. Breed, Master; R. Ill. Elijah W. Whipple, Deputy Master; Ill. William J. Scott, Principal Conductor of the Work and eleven others, to form a Council in the City and County of New York, to be called "Pennell Council."

The petition on which the last named dispensation was granted is signed by nine who were once members of Pennell Council, No.

2, and prays for the restoration of the Warrant of said Council. In all the cases of dispensations, I have no doubt but that the Councils will present such specimens of their labor as will induce the Grand Council to continue their existence by granting them Warrants of Constitution.

GRAND COUNCILS.

Since our last Annual Assembly there have been four Grand Councils added to the number already in existence on this continent, viz.:

California, Rhode Island, Arkansas, and New Jersey; and it will be perceived that two of them, California and New Jersey, were formed in States in which we had Councils located. Of the existence of the Grand Council of California, I was informed by the Deputy Grand Master thereof, who visited me personally, and stated that the four Councils in his State had assembled in June last, and regularly formed and opened a Grand Council and that Grass Valley Council, No. 10, of our jurisdiction participated therein. By invitation, I assisted in the formation of the Grand Council of New Jersey on the twenty-sixth of November last, at the City of New Brunswick, and I doubt not that it will prove itself a worthy daughter of New York. Kane Council, No. 11, is now under the jurisdiction of the M. P. Grand Council of New Jersey, and its zealous and efficient Master, M. P. William Mead, is the Grand Master.

I would recommend that the four aforementioned Grand Councils be formally acknowledged by this Grand Council.

THE UNION OF 1860.

During the year that has passed, I have seen the good effects arising from the Union which was accomplished in June last. It was the reuniting, the last and only dissevered link in the fraternity of this State, and its tendency has been to promote that peace and harmony without which our institution cannot flourish. I have received many congratulatory epistles from other jurisdictions, which it would afford me pleasure, did time permit, to give in extenso, but I must be satisfied with making a few extracts.

R. P. Charles A. Fuller, Grand Recorder of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Tennessee, in his letter of July 10th 1860, says: "I have read your Proceedings with much interest and gratification, and especially that portion referring to the union of the two bodies claiming sovereignty in your State. Success to the united body. Masonry in New York, in all its departments, has had particular attractions to me, as it is my native State."

M. P. William Hacker, Grand Master of the Grand Council of Indiana writes, July 11th, 1860. "I rejoice to see from your Proceedings, that you have affected a union of all the Councils in your State under one grand organization. This has welded the last link that binds the Craft on the continent of North America in one united bond, without any fragment whatever. How cheering, how consoling the thought! May the God of our Fathers grant that Union, Harmony and Peace may ever prevail amongst us throughout our entire fraternal brotherhood."

From the Grand Master of Royal and Select Masters of Wisconsin, July 12th, 1860, M. P. A. Sidney Wood, we have the following: "I cannot suffer this opportunity to pass without offering you and all the Illustrious Companions of your noble State my cordial congratulations upon the happy union of the two Grand Councils, effected at your last Grand Convocation. It is as it should be; and may you ever be able to say, with a realizing sense, as I am happy to believe you now can, 'Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.' I thank you and the worthy companions of your Grand Council for their friendly greeting and recognition of the Grand Council of Wisconsin. May our friendly and brotherly intercourse strengthen with time."

July 15th, 1860. M. P. E. B. Moore, Grand Master of the Grand Council of Massachusetts, writes: "I rejoice with you that all difficulties and differences have been healed in your two Grand Councils, and that hereafter they are to exist as a unit. May nothing ever occur again to mar the happiness and prosperity of the united Grand Bodies. I have read the Proceedings of your Grand Council with much interest and pleasure. The document is one of the 'precious treasures,' and I keep it safely in my archives as a sacred deposit, from which I may draw matters 'new and old' for the edification of my associates in the Cryptic Art."

July 16, 1860, M. P. R. C. Torrey, Grand Master of Alabama writes as follows: "Allow me to congratulate you upon the happy union of the recent two Grand Bodies, and to express the hope that the fervency and zeal which seem to characterize your proceedings will pervade all parts of your extensive jurisdiction, and increase the number and influence of your Subordinate Councils to an extent commensurate with the size and importance of your Empire State."

July 18, 1860, M. P. John M. Parks, M. D., Grand Master of Royal and Select Masters of Ohio, says: "I congratulate the Grand Councils of New York on their happy union."

July 30th, 1860; from M. P. Stephen H. Pierce, Grand Master of the Grand Council of Vermont, we have the following: "I was well pleased to hear of the union of the two Grand Councils of your

State, and trust that the interests of Cryptic Masonry will be greatly advanced thereby."

Thus I might go on, Companions, adding extract to extract, but I think I have quoted enough to show what those of position and influence in the Order think of your action of last year. Approval comes from every quarter; disapproval from none.

GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL.

I have received several letters from other States suggesting to me as the Grand Master of the oldest Grand Council to call a convention for the purpose of forming a General Grand Council, to which I have invariably replied that the evils of such a body would in my opinion, more than counterbalance any good which might arise therefrom. There is only one way in which I can see that such a body could be at all beneficial, and that is, in producing uniformity of work and lectures throughout the States; and this could only be done by clothing the General Grand Council with supreme powers to enable it to enforce the adoption by its subordinates of the standard work when once agreed upon. A General Grand Council with only advisory authority would, as I view it, be worse than useless, entailing upon the Craft an expense without a corresponding benefit.

CONSTITUTIONS.

Our Constitutions as codified by the Committee, appointed for the purpose, were published with the transactions of last year; but for the convenience of your subordinates, I would recommend that an edition be published separately from our Proceedings this year, and that the said edition embrace all the General Regulations now in force, the Rules of Order of the Grand Council, and the Installation and Constitution Ceremonies adopted by you in June last.

DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

I have been very much aided in the discharge of my duties by R. P. Seymour H. Stone, Deputy Grand Master, and R. P. Charles H. Platt, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, who have both shown themselves efficient and able officers. I have received from each an account of the official acts performed by them, but as some portions of their letters are of private nature, I am enabled to give only extracts therefrom.

In December last I directed the Deputy Grand Master to constitute Oneida Council, No. 12, and install its officers, that duty not having been performed by the proxy appointed by me in June last. His report to me on the matter is as follows: "After corresponding

with T. Ill. George F. Bicknell (as reported to you at the time), I, at your suggestion, ordered him to convene his Council for the purpose of being constituted, and to notify me when they were ready, which he did; but the letter reaching my address while I was in the City of New York, I failed to meet them on the appointed evening, December 13th, which would have been, by the Constitution, their regular election night; but during the next week on December 20th, I met with them and constituted Oneida Council, No. 12, in due form. I then granted a dispensation to hold an election, which was had, whereupon I installed T. I. George F. Bicknell, as Master for the ensuing year, leaving him to install the other officers." The Grand Principal Conductor of the Work reports to me as follows: "I have the honor and pleasure to report to you that in compliance with your instructions, I proceeded on the 20th day of June, 1860, to constitute Buffalo Council, No. 17, and to install the Master and other officers of the same. In accordance with like instructions, on the evening of the same day I constituted Bruce Council, No. 15, and installed the Deputy Master and other officers of the same. My signature, as Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, was, on the 13th day of June, 1860, appended to the proper circulars certifying to other Grand Councils the election of Grand Officers in the Grand Council of the State of New York, and the documents were duly transmitted to you.

On the 17th day of July, 1860, I received authority, under your seal, to act in certain functions as your proxy, by virtue of which I healed Companion Mathew Sittser, (since deceased at Auburn, N. Y.), and Companion Harvey Wilson, now Recorder of King Hiram Council, U. D.

By virtue of the same powers on the organizing King Hiram Council, U. D., which took place on the 30th day of August last, I appointed R. I. Samuel Graves, Deputy Master, to supply the place of deceased Comp. Thomas Y. How named in the dispensation for that office. Under like authority which you committed to me, I have conferred at sight the degrees of Royal and Select Masters as follows: At an emergent Assembly of Bruce Council, No. 15, held on the 9th day of August last, upon Companions duly accepted by said Bruce Council, No. 15, William F. Holmes, Daniel Warner, William H. Burtis, John C. Holland, George Shelton and Wm. S. Alling, Jr., all of Rochester, N. Y. At an emergent Assembly of Bruce Council, No. 15, held on the 13th day of August last, upon the following Companions duly accepted by that Council, viz., Companions, G. B. Redfield, John Heywood, A. J. Warner, Wm. W. Bruff, E. Trimmer, S. C. Steele, and L. C. Spencer, all of Rochester, N. Y., together with Comp. Daniel Seaver, of Batavia, N. Y., and Comp. Andrew R. Ferguson, of Lockport, N. Y. At a regular Assembly of King Hiram Council, U. D., held on the 30th of August

last, upon Comp. Moore Conger, W. H. Brown, George Brown, James H. Hoskins, and Jas. R. Langham, duly accepted by said Council.

My attention has been directed to the proper measures for the establishment of Councils throughout the State, and correspondence with that intent has been maintained with numerous companions.

There were prospects that the light from S∴ V∴ would penetrate the various precincts of R∴ A∴, but public distraction and commotion have exchanged the peaceful echoes of the cementing and shaping implements for the dismal sounds of strife. It behooves us devoutly to supplicate the Grand Architect of the Universe that He may hush these tones of confusion, and again unite His Royal and Select Workmen in the labors of reconstruction, reconciliation, fraternity and order. Such, Companions, are the reports which I have received from your very zealous and faithful Deputy Grand Master and Grand Principal Conductor of the Work. They show an activity and zeal in the diffusion and spread of the sublime mysteries of Cryptic Masonry, which is worthy the imitation of others; and if your Grand Body has always at its helm such officers, her course must of necessity be upward and onward.

THE RAVAGES OF DEATH.

Death has invaded our Grand Council, and laid his icy hand upon some of its brightest ornaments. The Hon. and R. Ill. Thomas Y. How, of Auburn, departed this life on the 15th day of July, 1860. In regard to his death, the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work writes: "He was stricken down during the work in a M. E. M. Lodge, on the evening of the 14th of July, and remained unconscious until he expired, when the Grand Architect of the Universe decreed to its dissolution the earthly tabernacle of a spirit almost unrivaled in brilliancy, generosity and fraternal zeal, to be reconstructed when the labors of the S∴ V∴ are forever closed and a greater glory inhabits the second temple."

In March, 1861, R. P. and Rev. John Gray, Past Grand Chaplain of this Grand Council was taken from the labors of the Terrestrial Council to be employed in the Celestial Council where dwell life and light eternal. The character of our R. P. and Rev. Companion is too well known to you all to need at my hands any eulogy, were I capable of pronouncing one. His assiduity in his profession and his unblemished reputation as a man and a Mason, are, with the Craft in this State, "as familiar as household words."

Death, as ever inexorable, was not satisfied with these two victims, but seized another with his unvielding grip. T. Ill. and P. Joseph Wright, Grand Steward of this Grand Council, died at his

residence in Brooklyn on the 7th day of May last, and was interred with Masonic honors in Greenwood. He was zealous and indefatigable in the discharge of all his duties as a Mason, a husband and a father, and he leaves a large circle of friends to mourn his loss. His vacant seat in this Grand Council, where he was always punctually at his post, reminds us most forcibly that he has gone to "that bourne from which no traveler returns."

I would respectfully suggest to this Most Puissant Body, that special committees be appointed to prepare a report, which shall give expression to the feeling and sentiment of the Grand Council in view of these afflicting dispensations of our Supreme Grand Master.

Companions, in closing this my Third Annual Report as your Grand Master, I cannot refrain from referring to the many cheering circumstances which surround and encourage us to renewed exertions to disseminate the light and instruction of the Cryptic branch of the Order. Where we had three years ago three Councils struggling to maintain a feeble and sickly existence in this State, we now behold sixteen full grown bodies vying with each other in "that noble emulation of who can best work, who best agree;" and instead of a jurisdiction the least in number of its affiliated companions, we are now among the largest. Peace and Unity reign amongst us, and there are now no obstacles in the way of our continued prosperity.

In a few hours you will be called upon to select your Grand Officers for the ensuing year, and in regard to this responsible duty allow me to say a few words. The lusting after office is fast becoming, I fear, in the Masonic Fraternity as in the outer political world, the cause of many evils. Men are seldom apt to estimate their own qualifications at their true value, and will either rate them too high or too low. I hold it, therefore as true Masonic doctrine, that no one should seek office in the Order, nor it being tendered to him by his Companions unsolicited, should he refuse, unless there are reasons known to himself which will disable him from faithfully performing his duty.

Thus, Companions, I have endeavored to give an account of my stewardship and to make such suggestions as seemed to me likely to advance the welfare of this Grand Council; and having done so, I throw myself on your kind indulgence; knowing from past experience you will judge justly, and ascribe my shortcomings to a want of ability rather than to willful neglect. May our session be a harmonious and pleasant one, and may we separate with satisfactory feeling of having well performed the duties intrusted to us by our constituents.

N. O. BENJAMIN, Grand Master.

The M. P. appointed as Committee on Address, R. P. Charles H. Platt, R. P. Charles E. Gillett, and T. I. William Gould.

The M. P. also appointed the following Standing Committees:

On Credentials and Returns:—R. P. Josiah Shove, R. P. John B. Harris,, R. P Seymour H. Stone.

On Warrants:—T. I. William Gould, T. I. David B. Howell and R. I. Stiles M. Rust.

On Constitutions:—R. P. Seymour H. Stone, R. P. Charles H. Platt and R. P. George Godfrey.

On Grievance:—R. P Charles E. Gillett, T. I. William Gould and R. P. John B. Harris.

On Finance:—T. I. David B. Howell, R. I. Stiles M. Rust, and T. I. William Gould.

The Committee on Grand Master's Address presented the following Report, which was on motion received, the Committee was discharged, and its recommendations adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

The Special Committee to whom was referred the Grand Master's Address respectfully report, that they appreciate the embarrassments under which the M. P. Grand Master has recapitulated the proceedings of the past year, while surrounded with the perplexities of public confusion, and at the same time commend his careful collation of topics interesting to this Grand Body.

We recommend the reference of the various topics embraced in the Address as follows:

First. That so much of the Grand Master's Address as refers to Dispensations for Councils be referred to the Committee on Warrants.

Second. That so much thereof as refers to the four new Grand Councils be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Third. That so much thereof as refers to deceased members be referred to a Special Committee of three.

Fourth. That so much thereof as refers to Constitutions be referred to Committee on Constitutions and By-Laws of Councils.

Fifth. That so much thereof as refers to the subject of a General Grand Council be referred to a Special Committee.

C. H. Platt,
Chas. E. Gillett, } Committee.
W. Gould,

The M. P. appointed as Special Committee on so much of the Grand Master's Address as relates to deceased Companions, R. P. Charles H. Platt, T. I. Michael Pinner and R. I. Johannes D. Hasbrouck.

And on so much as relates to a General Grand Council to T. I. Enoch P. Breed, R. P. Sewall T. Fisk and R. P. Charles E. Gillett.

T. I. Comp. D. B. Howell from the Committee on Warrants, presented the following Report, and on motion, the report was received, and the resolutions accompanying the same were adopted.

To the M. P Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Warrants and Dispensations to whom was referred the petition of a constitutional number of Companions praying for a Warrant to continue a Council of Royal and Select Masters in Auburn, N. Y., to be called King Hiram Council:

Also, for a like petition for a Council in Rochester, to be called Doric Council;

Also, for a like petition for a Council in Buffalo, to be called Keystone Council;

Also, for a like petition for a Council at Rondout, to be called, Hudson River Council;

Also, for a like petition for a Council in Albany, to be called De Witt Clinton Council;

Also, a petition for the revival of Pennell Council, No. 2, located in the City of New York.

Would respectfully report, that the above named Councils have been working under Dispensation duly granted by the Grand Master; and on due examination, we find that their proceedings have been regular, and in conformity with the Constitution and Regulations of this Grand Council. Your Committee therefore offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to T. I. Joseph M. Morris, Master; R. I. Samuel Graves as Deputy Master; and Ill. Wm. H. Barnes as P C. of the W.; and others, to hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the City of Auburn, N. Y., by the name and style of King Hiram Council, No. 18.

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to T. I. Wm. E. Lathrop, Master; R. I. Wm. F. Holmes, Deputy Master; Ill. Wm. S. Alling, P. C. of the W.; and others, to hold a Council in the City of Rochester, N. Y., by name and style of Doric Council, No. 19.

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to T. I. Michael Pinner, Master; R. Ill. Wm. Fleming, Deputy Master; Ill. Abram S. Swartz, P. C. of the W.; and others, to hold a Council in the City of Buffalo, New York, by name and style of Keystone Council, No. 20.

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to T. I. Geo. F Von Beck, Master; R. Ill. J. D. Hasbrouck, Deputy Master; Ill. Geo. W. Smith, P. C. of the W.; and others, to hold a Council in Rondout, N. Y., by name and style Hudson River Council, No. 21.

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to T. I. Edward H. Jones, Master; R. Ill. Peter P. Wendell, Deputy Master; Ill. Jackson H. Chase, P. C. of the W.; and others, to hold a Council in the City of Albany, N. Y., to be called De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22; when the Council has made the proper returns to the G. C.

Resolved, That a Warrant be granted to T. I. E. P. Breed, Master; R. Ill. E. W Whipple, Deputy Master; Ill. Wm. J. Scott, P C. of the W.; and others, to hold a Council in the City of New York to be called Pennell Council, No. 2.

All of which is most respectfuly submitted.

W. Gould,
S. M. Rust, } Committee.
D. B. Howell,

New York, June 4th, A. Dep. 2861.

The Grand Recorder presented the following Annual Report, which was received and referred to the Finance Committe:

To the Officers and Members of the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M., of the State of New York.

Your Recorder would beg leave to present the following as his Annual Report:

	Received during the last session of the Grand Council, as per printed transactions.....	$272.38
July 13, 1860.	Received for Dispensation for "King Hiram Council".....	20.00
Sept. 1, 1860.	Received for Seal to two Certificates	1.00
Nov. 2, 1860.	Received for Seal to one Certificate	.50
Nov. 2, 1860.	Received for Dispensation to "Doric Council".....	20.00
Nov. 22, 1860.	Received for Dispensation to "Keystone Council".....	20.00
Dec. 13, 1860.	Received for dispensation to "Hudson River Council"	20.00
	Received for Seal to two Certificates	1.00
Feb. 6, 1861.	Received for Seal to two Certificates	1.00
	Received for Dispensation to "De Witt Clinton Council".....	20.00
May 28, 1861.	Received for Dispensation to "Pennell Council"	20.00
	Received for Seal to two Certificates	1.00
		$396.88

All of which has been paid to the Grand Treasurer and his receipt taken therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following Annual Report, which was received and referred to the Finance Committee.

To the M. P. Grand Master, Grand Officers and Members of the M. P. Grand Council, of R. and S. M., of the State of New York.

Your Treasurer would respectfully present the following Annual Report:

June 5, 1860.	To Cash received from the late Grand Treasurer	$22.47
June 5, 1860.	To Cash received from the late Grand Recorder	272.38
July 13, 1860.	To Cash received from the late Grand Recorder	20.00
Sept. 1, 1860.	To Cash received from the late Grand Recorder	1.00
Nov. 2, 1860.	To Cash received from the late Grand Recorder	20.50
Nov. 22, 1860.	To Cash received from the late Grand Recorder	20.00
Dec. 13, 1860.	To Cash received from the late Grand Recorder	21.00
Feb. 6, 1861.	To Cash received from the late Grand Recorder	21.00
May 28, 1861.	To Cash received from the late Grand Recorder	21.00
		$419.35

Paid on account of Warrant, No. 5	$30.00
Paid on account of Warrant, No. 6	24.30
Paid on account of Warrant, No. 21	17.00
Paid on account of Warrant, No. 22	7.00
Paid on account of Warrant, No. 23	52.62
Paid on account of Warrant, No. 24	50.00
Paid on account of Warrant, No. 25	9.50
Paid on account of Warrant, No. 26	173.00
Paid on account of Warrant, No. 27	20.00
Paid on account of Warrant, No. 28	8.00
Paid on account of Warrant, No. 29	13.16
	404.58
Leaving balance in my hands	$14.77

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN B. HARRIS.

New York, June 4th, 1861.

M. P. Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the following Annual Report which was, on motion, received and ordered spread upon the Minutes, and the resolutions accompanying the same were adopted:

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully submit the following Annual Report:

They have, during the past Masonic year, received in the Order and at the dates mentioned below the proceedings of the following Grand Councils, viz.:

	Grand Council of	Date of Meeting	Date of Reception
1.	Florida	January, 1860	April 28, 1860
2.	Alabama	December 6, 1859	May 15, 1860
3.	Michigan	January 10, 1860	June 10, 1860
4.	Kentucky	October 19, 1859	June 20, 1860
5.	Tennessee	October 10, 1859	July 16, 1860
6.	Ohio	October 14, 1859	July 21, 1860
7.	Pennsylvania	June 22, 1860	August 6, 1860
8.	Mississippi	January 13, 1860	August 8, 1860
9.	Texas	June 22, 1860	August 20, 1860
10.	Georgia	April 25, 1860	August 20, 1860
11.	Connecticut	May 9, 1860	August 21, 1860
12.	Louisiana	February 16, 1860	August 25, 1860
13.	Indiana	May 22, 1860	September 8, 1860
14.	Maine	May 2, 1860	October 3, 1860
15.	South Carolina	February 15, 1860	October 25, 1860
16.	Illinois	September 27, 1860	December 1, 1860
17.	Iowa	August 15, 1860	December 10, 1860
18.	New Jersey	November 26, 1860	December 19, 1860
19.	Vermont	August 10, 1860	January 10, 1861
20.	Massachusetts	December 11, 1860	February 22, 1861
21.	Michigan	January 8, 1861	February 23, 1861
22.	Arkansas	November 6, 1860	February 22, 1861
23.	Rhode Island	October 30, 1860	February 23, 1861

In their last Annual Report your Committee had the pleasure of reviewing the proceedings of nineteen Grand Councils, there being then but twenty-one in the United States. By the above list it will be seen that they have this year received the proceedings of twenty-three Grand Councils; and from this fact alone your Committee feel justified in claiming that Cryptic Masonry not only "holds its own," but is making rapid strides towards that position which, as the head of Ancient Craft Masonry, she is entitled to assume. It will also be noticed from the data given above, that the printed proceedings of certain Grand Councils were not received until many months after their Annual Assemblies were respectively held, so that information which might have been communicated to your Most Puissant Body at your last Assembly has been withheld until the present.

Your Committee regret this delay, and trust that the Grand Recorders of the several Grand Councils will hereafter see that the proceedings of their respective Grand Bodies are as promptly printed, and forwarded to the Grand Councils with which they are in communication as the nature of the case will admit.

Without further preface, your Committee call attention to the following review of the proceedings of the Grand Councils above enumerated, which they have endeavored to make as concise as justice to the subject treated of would permit, and as was consistent with the proper information of the Craft, etc.

R. P. Vincent W. Bate, from the Committee appointed at the last Annual Assembly to prepare a History of the Grand Council of the State of New York, from its inception to the present time, forwarded from his present residence, London, England, the following Report, which was on motion, received and ordered spread upon the Minutes, and the thanks of the Grand Council were tendered to the Committee for the efficient manner in which they had performed the duty assigned them.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

Thrice Illustrious and Illustrious Companions:—Having been selected by you, at your last Annual Assembly to collate the History of your Illustrious Body, I beg leave to hand you the manuscript, which I think will afford you sufficient matter whereby you and the sister Grand Councils of the United States may intelligently trace your relationship and origin. Although much more matter might have been interpolated, to have lengthened the pro-

duction, and given it more seeming importance, I have deemed it unnecessary to tire the attention of the reader or to add unnecessary expense by burdening your Archives with useless verbiage and waste letter-press; and I trust, in acting thus, I shall not be deemed guilty of neglect or indolence by your illustrious Body.

I am Illustrious Companions, with entire respect and consideration,

Yours Fraternally,

VINCENT W. BATE, Chairman.

The Degrees of Royal, Select and Super-Excellent Master, as conferred under the authority of the Grand Council of the State New York, derive their origin from authority of Frederick III., King of Prussia, who was in 1761, Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander of the 33d Degree at Berlin, where the Supreme Grand East of the Ineffable Degrees was then held. The Ineffable Degrees are those conferred in the Lodge of Perfection, eleven in number, and in which were formerly conferred several detached or side Degrees, among them the Degrees of Royal Master, Select Master, Mark Master, Grand Patriarch, Most Excellent Master and Super-Excellent Master. These Degrees (Ancient and Accepted Rite) were introduced into this country by Henry A. Franker, who emigrated from France, having been there appointed a Deputy Inspector-General of the 33d Degree by Bro. Stephen Morin, who in 1761, was constituted, in Paris, a Sovereign Grand Inspector-General by a Grand Consistory (or Grand Council) of the 33d Degree held by order of Frederick King of Prussia, from Berlin, the then seat of the Supreme Grand East.

Under Bro. Franker's auspices, these degrees were introduced into New York, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island. The Detached Degrees, however, were never cultivated to any great extent in these States, but the Royal and Select Degrees were very extensively promulgated at the South, under the auspices of the Southern Jurisdiction, or Supreme Grand Council of the 33rd Degree, at Charleston, S. C., from 1782; the Northern Jurisdiction being stationed in New York City.

The Northern Jurisdiction did not cultivate the Detached Degrees, and hence it was, that in 1807, Franker, having been dead several years, Bro. Joseph Cerneau, Dep. Ins. Gen. 33rd Degree, and a member of Washington Lodge, No. 85, conferred the Degrees of Royal Master upon several brethren in New York, and by his authority, derived from the Grand Consistory in France,

formed, in September of that year the Council of Royal Master Masons of the City of New York, and installed Companion Thomas Lownds as first Grand Royal Master. No mention is made of the Select Master's Degre until December 26, 1821, when a communication was received from "the Council of Select Masters, informing them, that they are willing" to be united and come into the Council of Royal Masters. The question being taken, it was unanimously agreed that we accept the "proposal."

Resolved, That the fees for the Degree of Select Master be two dollars.

The Council of Select Masters of New York, whose members were healed, and came into the Council of Royal Masters, under one jurisdiction, owed its origin to Philip P. Eckles and Hezekiah Niles of Baltimore, Maryland, who received their authority, primarily, from the representatives of the Grand Consistory at Berlin, and was established in the City of New York in 1820.

The Records of the Grand Council of Royal Masters of New York, September 2d, 1810, say: "This Grand Council by resolution granted a Warrant to Columbian Council, No. 1, for the City of New York, Comp. Thomas Lownds, Thrice Illustrious Royal Master; John E. Ruckel, Deputy Illustrious Royal Master; William Craig, Illustrious Royal Warden." From this date to 1821, that of Royal Master was the only regular degree conferred, for which a fee of $5.00 was charged; there were, however, Detached Degrees conferred, viz., "Knights of the Round Table," "The Illustrious and Invincible Order of the Knights of the Garter," and "Knights of St. George of Cappadocia." Upon the assumption of the Select Degree by the Grand Council, the Detached Degrees are never again mentioned; they seem to have fallen into immediate disuse, and not until 1842, under Comp. Richard Ellis, as Grand Master, was the Super-Excellent Degree very frequently conferred, and then as a Detached or Honorary Degree; which practice has prevailed ever since, both in New York and Massachusetts. Although an attempt has been twice made to raise the fee to ten dollars, no more than five dollars have ever been paid for the Council Degrees.

The following are literal extracts from the records of the Grand Council and Columbian Council, No. 1, respectively:

1810. Sept. 2. "*Resolved*, That the Annual Election of Officers of Columbian Council, No. 1, shall take place at the time the sun enters Cancer, about June 21st."

Dec. 5. "*Resolved*, That the Knights of the Round-Table meet on the tenth of the present month Kislen."

Dec. 7. "A Council of Knights of the Round-Table was opened by the Illustrious Abbot Lownds."

1811. March 4. "A Chapter of Knights of the Honorable Order of the Garter was opened by the Grand Prelate Lownds."

Oct. 30. "A Council of Knights of the Ancient and Honorable Order of Knights of the Round-Table was held at St. John's Hall, Thrice Illustrious Abbot, Sir Thomas Lownds; Sir Robert Young, Sword Bearer; Sir Peter Roome, Verger. The following Companions were dubbed Knights of the Order," etc., etc. Year of the Order 1295.

Nov. 3. "A Chapter of Knights of the Garter held Year of the Order, 454."

Nov. 10. "A Chapter of the Illustrious and Invincible Order of Knights of the Garter was opened. The following Companions were installed Knights of the Order of St. George of Cappadocia," etc., etc.

1812. June 21. "Election of Officers. A draft of revised Constitution was submitted; in it the following appears: 'No person can be admitted a member, except he has regularly passed through the Symbolic Degrees of Masonry.' "

"The stated meetings of the Council shall be holden on the eighth day of every lunar month, when the sun is at meridian."

"The annual election shall take place on the 21st day of June, when the sun is at meridian."

"More than two candidates shall not be received at the same time in any Council, as there were but two Grand Masters when H. A. B. was" * * * (here the remainder is obliterated by age).

"Every member shall pay into the funds of the Council the sum of a didrachm on the 8th day of every lunar month. If on the 8th day of Tamus, (19th June), if it so fall out, if not on the election day, (21st June), after all the expense of the Council be paid, there appear any funds left in the treasury, it shall be distributed among the poor members."

"A Hebrew didrachm is equal to twenty-five cents United States currency."

1817. Dec. 6. "The following letter from Thr. Illus. Benj. Gleason was received:

New York, Nov. 27, 5817.

"To the Officers and Decemvirs of the Council of Royal Masters in the City of New York.

This petition respectfully showeth that a Council of Royal Masters has been established in the town of Boston within the present year; is duly organized and in successful operation, having their regular meetings quarterly—the last Tuesday of January, April, July and October; they acknowledge with much respect the senior establishment in New York, and with their associates do honor the same. It is their wish to obtain written sanction from your respected Council, that they may be confirmed in their Masonic labors and be in fraternal correspondence with each other.

In behalf of the Boston Council, I am, Brethren and Companions,

Respectfully and Fraternally yours,

BENJ. GLEASON, Thr∴ Ill∴ R∴ M∴

1823. Jany. 5. "The following communication was received: "To Comp. Thomas Lownds, Thr∴ Ill∴ G∴ Puissant:

"The undersigned, being Royal and Select Master Masons, and desirous of diffusing light and kowledge to the unimproved Masons, have determined to establish a Council of Royal and Select Masters in this city. They, therefore, pray you, Thrice Illustrious, to grant us a Charter for that purpose, and they recommend Illustrious Companion Samuel Edmonds to be appointed to the office of First Master thereof; Comp. John W. Edmonds to be Deputy Master, and Comp. Cyrus Curtis to be Principal Conductor.

Dated in the City of Hudson, January 3, A. L. 5823.

"Signed, Samuel Edmonds, John W. Edmonds, John Barney, Richard Hill, Cyrus Curtis, Campbell Bushnell, Darius S. Colvin, Thomas Blank, Ephraim T. Blank."

1824. June 21. "In response to the above, at the annual meeting of the Grand Council, June 21st, 1824, a Warrant was granted for Hudson Council, No. 2, but to Campbell Bushnell, as T. I. R. M.; Charles Waldo, as Ill. Dep. R. M., and Charles Smith, as Royal Warden."

"Canaan, Conn., June 2d, 1824.

"Comp. L. Q. C. Bowles, New York:

"I send you herewith inclosed, a petition for a Charter to hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters in Sheffield, Berkshire Co., Mass. The reason of our applying to your Grand Council is, there being no Grand Council in this State and the nearest Council is in Springfield, which is more than forty miles from Sheffield,

whose approbation we send inclosed, together with ten dollars, which is the sum you informed me would be required. Have the goodness to lay the petition and our case before the Grand Puissant, and obtain a Charter for us, if possible, so as to send by bearer, or by mail and oblige,

Yours Fraternally,

JOHN BARNEY."

"To all whom it may concern: The subscribers, presiding officers of the Hampden Council of Royal and Select Masters, hereby certify their consent that Companion John Barney, and a competent number of his associates, should be organized and formed into a Council of Royal and Select Masters under authority of the Grand Council of the State of New York, to be established at Sheffield, in the County of Berkshire, Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

"Springfield, Mass., April 26, 1824.

George Bliss, T. I. M.
Elisha Tobey, Dep. I. M.
Calvin Shattuck, P. C."

"The petition, as above-mentioned, asks for a Warrant for a Council of Royal and Select Masters, to be held in Sheffield, Berkshire County, Mass., and recommending M. E. Comp. John Barney, High Priest of Meridian Chapter, No. 15, held in Canaan, Conn., to be the first Thr. Ill. M., and Comp. Edward T. Ensign, first Dep. Ill. M., and Comp. Elisha W. Cleaveland, first P. C.

"Dated at Sheffield, May 31, 1824.

"Signed, John Barney, Edward T. Ensign, Elisha W. Cleaveland, George Kellogg, Jonathan Church, Warren Burwell, John Edmondson, Guy Loomis, Jonah Lawrence, Harvey Treat, Harvey Lawrence."

This Warrant bears date June 18th, 1824.

"At an extra Communication of Ames Chapter, No. 88, held at Masonic Hall, in the Village of Lockport, on Thursday, October 21st, A. L. 5824, pursuant to adjournment, the within petition having been read, it was, on motion of Comp. Van Durn,

Resolved, That this Chapter do recommend the same to the favorable consideration of the Grand Council of the State of New York. And for want of a seal for this Chapter, it was

Resolved, That the M. E. H. P. be authorized to sanction these proceedings under his hand and private seal.

H. W. CAMPBELL, H. P.

John G. Bond, Secretary."

"The petition above referred to, asks for a Council to be established at Lockport Village, N. Y., recommending Harvey W. Campbell to be first Thr. Ill. Royal Master; Almon H. Millard to be Deputy Royal Master, and Hiram Gardner to be Royal Warden; the desire to confer by their Warrant the Degrees of Royal Master, Select Master, and Super-Excellent Master.

"Signed, Almon H. Millard, H. W. Campbell, Norman Shephard, Paul Hawes, Seymour Scovill, Levi E. Rounds, John G. Bond, Hiram Gardner, Joel M. Parks, Wm. Buel, Eli Bruce, John Gooding."

This Warrant is dated November, 1824.

1825. "To all whom it may concern: At a Regular Communication of King Hiram Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, holden at the Masonic Chapel, in Greenwich Village, Massachusetts, September 20th, A. L. 5825, Companions Warren P. Wing, John Warren and others, being Royal and Select Masters, requested the approbation of this Chapter for establishing a Council of Royal and Select Masters in this place; and after deliberating upon the subject, the Chapter cheerfully granted their approbation, without a dissenting voice.

JAMES HINDS, Secretary of said Chapter."

"The petitioners above alluded to ask for a Warrant for a Council of Royal and Select Masters, to be held in Greenwich Village, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, recommending M. E. Comp. John Warner to be first Thr. Ill. Royal Master; Warren P. Wing, P. H. P. of King Hiram Chapter, to be Dep. Ill. Royal Master, and Comp. Edward Raymore, to be Royal Warden, or Principal Conductor.

Dated, Greenwich Village, May 6th, 1825.

"Signed, John Warner, Warren P. Wing, Edward Raymore, James Hines, Warren Smith, John J. Jurden, Lewis R. Peige, David Mellen, Aaron Johnson, Allen Wing, Wm. Walker."

"Sheffield, May 14th, A. L. 5825.

"To Thomas Lownds, Esq., Most. Illus. G. R. M. of the Grand Council of the State of New York.

"M. Ill. Comp.:—"The above petitioners are most of them well-known to me as Royal and Select Master Masons of respectability and have long had a Council of Royal Masters among them and have conferred the degree in a proper manner; but have never conferred that of Select Master, and have, therefore, petitioned for a Charter or a Warrant, empowering them to confer both of these degrees in a regular and constitutional manner, which Warrant they are desirous of obtaining from your Grand Council, if they can obtain it for the sum of ten dollars; therefore, I would solicit

you, if consistent, to direct your Grand Recorder to write to Comp. Warren P. Wing, Postmaster of Greenwich Village, and inform him whether they can have a Charter by sending that sum; if so, it will be sent immediately.

Very respectfully, your Friend and Companion,

JOHN BARNEY,
G. M. of Warren Council of R. and S. M.,
Sheffield, Mass."

This Council was named Washington Council, and the Warrant is dated October 14, A. L. 5825.

"A petition to hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the town of North East, Dutchess County, New York, asking for a Warrant, and recommending M. E. Comp. John Duel, H. P. of North East R. A. Chapter, to be the T. I. R. M.; Frederick J. Curtis, King of North East Chapter, to be Dep. Ill. R. M.; and Epaphroditus Taylor to be Royal Warden; the Council to be named Lafayette Council.

Dated, North East, Anno Dep. 2824, Anno Dom. 1825.

"Signed, John Duel, Philip Chase, Epaphroditus Taylor, David Dakin, Henry Hoysrast, Stephen G. Garnsey, Hiram Reynolds, Thomas H. Dunning, David West, Homer Dakin, Samuel Stephens, F. J. Curtis."

"And it is the request of the petitioners that Comp. John Barney be appointed to install the Council, if their prayer should be granted."

"I hereby certify that the above petitioners are Royal and Select Masters, and do most cordially recommend them to the Grand Council, hoping their prayer will be granted.

JOHN BARNEY,
"Sept. 18th, 1825. G. M. of Warren Council."

1826. "To the M. Ill. O. M. Lownds, Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons of the State of New York.

"This may certify, that on the 25th day of January, 1826, agreeably to the instructions contained in your Warrant, I, with the assistance of a suitable number of Companions, congregated the members of Lafayette Council in North East, and proceeded to constitute them into a regular Council; also installed the officers of the same, delivering to each of them the accustomed charges, agreeably to the immemorial usages of the Order.

Canaan, Conn., Febr. 28th, Anno Dep. 2826, A. L., 5826.

JOHN BARNEY,
G. M. of Warren Council."

This Warrant is dated October 14th, 1825.

1827. "To the Most Illustrious, Deputy Illustrious and Grand Principal Conductor of the Grand Council of Select and Royal Masters of the State of New York, Greeting:

"We, the undersigned, Select Masters, residing in the Village of Cleaveland, State of Ohio, having been duly admitted within the ninth arch, having the good of the Fraternity at heart, and conceiving the best interests of the Craft may be promoted by the establishment of a Council of Royal and Select Masters in this village (there being no organized body of this Order in the State), most respectfully pray, that you may deem it expedient to grant us a Warrant or Dispensation, authorizing us to open and hold a Council, to confer the Degrees of Royal and Select Master, to make our own By-Laws, and do such other things as may be lawful and right. And we do hereby nominate and recommend our worthy Companion, Daniel Wooley, as our first Thr. Ill. R. M.; Comp. J. F. Hawks, Dep. Ill.; Comp. J. Gallup, as Principal Conductor, Comp. H. H. Sizer, as Captain of the Guards; and Comp. John Knapp, as Grand Steward. We wish to have the Council denominated King Hiram Council. And we do hereby pledge ourselves that we will acquiesce in all the Laws and Edicts of the Grand Council of the State of New York, and conduct ourselves in all respects as become Select Masters.

Respectfully yours,

J. F. HAWKS,

H. P. of Webb Chapter."

"Daniel Worley, H. H. Sizer, Jabesh Gallup, P. M. Weddell, M. Oviatt, Edwin Clark, John Knapp, Walter Fillig, Capt. of Host."

This Warrant bears date January 6th, 1827.

July 25. A communication was received from a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the City of Washington, D. C., requesting to be recognized as a regular Council. The following was adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Council acknowledge the Council of Royal and Select Masters in the City of Washington, D. C., of which William Lambert is R. M., and that they be presented with a Warrant free of expense. That Comps. William F. Piatt, Lebbens Chapman, Silas Butler, Jr., and F. S. Wilsey, be a Committee to communicate our proceeding to said Council."

The Warrant bears date July 25th, 1827, under the name of Washington Council.

1847. Dec. 10. "A Warrant was granted to Houston Council, No. 10, Houston, Texas; William D. Smith, T. I. R. M., Ebenezer L. Nichols, John N. Reed and others."

1827. June 21. "The M. I. Gerrit Morgan, G. M. of this Grand Council, received a letter from James Cushman, then residing in the State of New Jersey in regard to his (James Cushman's), granting Warrants to establish Councils under authority of the State of Maryland, and the following resolution was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That Ill. Comps. William F. Piatt, Henry Marsh, and Lebbens Chapman, be a Committee to confer with James Cushman on the subject of his granting Warrants for Councils of Select and Royal Masters, and to answer his letter to the M. Ill. G. M. Gerrit Morgan on that subject, with a view to a suspension of such illegal acts on his part, and report the proceedings thereon to this Grand Council as soon as practicable. The Committee were not enabled to find said James Cushman, and consequently there was no report in regard to him. It appears, however, that he did grant a Warrant for Ohio."

1841. Sept. 16. "At the Communication of several Grand Bodies of Masons, held in New York City, September 16, 1841, there were present, the Most Puissant of the Grand Council and the T∴ I∴ of a Subordinate Council of the State of Ohio, as they styled themselves, who made application to visit Columbian Council, No. 1. On examination, they stated that they had received a Warrant from New Jersey, to form a Council, and from that Council their present Grand Council had been formed. They were informed that this Grand Council did not acknowledge their authority as legal; they were consequently refused admission. In none of the proceedings of the Grand Council, nor of Columbian Council, No. 1, does the name of Jeremy L. Cross appear, as a visitor. As a Select and Royal Master he was unknown and unrecognized by them. To explain the position of Jeremy L. Cross to the Grand Council of New York, and their disavowal of the genuineness of the source whence he derived the degrees, I quote from the letter of Comp. Jos. K. Stapleton, G. H. P. of Maryland, and D. G. G. H. P. of the United States, dated 25th February, 1850. "It was on the first introduction of our representatives, Philip P. Eckel and B. Eddes, then respectively G. H. P. and G. Secretary of the G. Chapter of Maryland, in the General Grand Chapter at Boston (1816), that the acquaintance of J. L. Cross was made, and as he had been appointed by the General Grand Chapter their Grand Lecturer, together with the exertions then making to diffuse a more general knowledge of Royal Arch Masonry, induced our worthy chiefs, Eckel, G. H. P., Keating, G. K., and Hezekiah Niles, G. Scribe, to confer the degrees upon Cross, that he might be qualified and instructed therein. These Companions took great pains with him, and upon his leaving Baltimore, they furnished him with a certificate of qualification, enjoining him to give those

degrees (Royal and Select) to any member of a regular Chapter, wherever he might be called upon to lecture and instruct Chapters. As soon as he was beyond the limits of our State, he forfeited his covenants to our Grand Officers, and turned the trust reposed in him to a merchandise account, charging five dollars for the degrees, and twenty-five dollars to thirty dollars for a Council Warrant. And not satisfied with this, he deputed authority to others to go forth and trade in his name and for his emolument, much to the regret and mortification of our Chiefs for having confided in one so unworthy and regardless of his covenants given to them. To J. L. Cross may be traced all the injury and injustice done to the Masonic family in the Southern, Western and Eastern sections of the United States. J. L. Cross represented that he received his degrees and authority from a Council; whereas he received them from officers of a Grand Chapter, in their capacity as Chapter Officers, and not as individuals or as a Council; and his authority to confer them he received from the General Grand Chapter, by virtue of his commission as Grand Lecturer. Neither he nor Cushman, nor any other of his deputies, therefore, had a right to grant Warrants, as has already been noticed in the case of Ohio."

An inquiry having arisen in the Grand Chapter of New York, "is there a legitimate and regular Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in the State of New York?" the Grand Council of New York was applied to in November, 1849, with the view of obtaining their consent to surrender the jurisdiction of these degrees to the Grand Chapter of the State. This was answered by a condensed history of its origin, and the assertion of its supremacy and jurisdiction in the State, and also the following Protest:

"This Grand Council have unanimously

Resolved, That they will never surrender any of their rights to the Grand Chapter of this State, or right of conferring the Degrees of Royal and Select Masters in any Subordinate Chapter, and solemnly protest against the right of the Grand Chapter of this State to issue edicts, authorizing the conferring of those degrees in any Chapter under its jurisdiction. This Grand Council have learned with regret that Companion Ezra S. Barnum, H. P. of Utica Chapter in this State, has been conferring said degrees in his Chapter, which we consider a gross injustice to us and an infringement upon our rights without any legal authority, subversive of the ancient landmarks, and tending to make discord and divisions in the Fraternity, unnecessary and uncalled for, and which, sions in the Fraternity, unnecessary and uncalled for and which, if persisted in, will materially affect the harmony of the Companions in this State."

The Grand Council of New York fully concur in the follow-

ing extract from a letter of William T. Gould, G. H. P. of Georgia, addressed to the H. P. of Magnolia Chapter, No. 16, Florida, in reply to its circular (see proceedings of G. C. of Florida, January 15th, 1849), dated, Augusta, Ga., June 6th, 1848:

"The only source of authority to confer these degrees which we know of, is the Council of the 33d Degree in the first instance, and Grand Council subsequently organized.

"I hold the rule to be fundamental, that we are to use and transmit to others, Masonic knowledge in no other manner than that in which we have received it. I cannot, therefore, consent to the jurisdiction of the Royal and Select Degrees passing to Royal Arch Chapters. They ought to have had it from the beginning, but not having it, how can they get it by their own act? If all the Grand Councils, and the Supreme Councils of the 33d Degree, will concur in yielding these degrees to the control of the Grand Chapters, I am content. But till that is done, I insist on an adherence to old landmarks as the only proper and safe course."

Extract of a letter from Ebenezer Wadsworth, P. G. L. R. A. C., of New York, dated West Troy, June 5th, 1848: "In 1819, at the meeting of the General Grand Chapter at New York, I attended as a proxy of the G. G. H. P. De Witt Clinton, when I raised the question of the General Grand Chapter taking some of these degrees, and particularly those of Royal Master and Sublime Firm Master, under its jurisdiction, to prevent their being handed round without selection of character, or providing funds for the benefit of the indigent.

M. Es. Thomas Smith Webb and Ezra Ames, who were Oracles of the Order, as Companions Eckel and Eddes, from Baltimore, and a full representation from the Northern States, united in saying, that it was inexpedient for the General Grand Chapter to recognize in any way any degrees except those of E. A., F. C., M. M., Mark M., P. M., M. E. M., and Royal Arch. That to do so would be an inroad upon the original compact, and would open a door to the admission of evils that might occasion great difficulty thereafter; that the Grand and General Grand Chapter were organized for the four last mentioned degrees, the first three being recognized as necessary to be possessed by candidates for advancement to the last four.

"These opinions being expressed by Comp. Webb, who was presiding when I raised the question, and being acceded to by the Body, I withdrew the proposition and no record was made of the matter, to my recollection.

"Thus it was at that time the settled opinion of the General Grand Chaper, that no cognizance whatsoever ought to be taken of any degrees except those mentioned."

The Protest, a manuscript copy of which from the archives of the Grand Council, I have before me, concludes thus:

"The Grand Council of the State of New York, might produce many other authorities in evidence against any Grand Chapter or Subordinate Chapter's usurpation of these degrees. They will, therefore, in conclusion say, that as Royal Arch Masons, and as Grand Officers of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, we respectfully request your honorable Body to discountenance and prohibit any innovation of or interference with our just and legal rights, either by the Grand Officers, or Subordinate Chapters under your jurisdiction. In 1849, the well-known schism in the Grand Lodge of New York occured, and the vexed question of Grand Lodge government—the Past Master question—severed two invaluable components of its jurisdiction. The Grand Council of New York consisted almost entirely of members of the Phillips Grand Lodge, while the Willard Body, having few Select Masters in their fold, had no Council duly organized. In 1854, many R. A. Masons belonging to the Willard Body, desirous of advancing the cause of Select Masonry in the State, had obtained successively Warrants for Washington, Pennell and Oriental Councils from the Grand Council of Connecticut, under whose auspices a new and second Grand Council was formed in the City of New York, notwithstanding that the Grand Council of Connecticut had always been treated as spurious and clandestine by the old Grand Council of New York, inasmuch as they had derived their existence from J. L. Cross in the manner before alluded to. In 1859, the schism being healed in the Grand Lodge, a Committee was empowered by the new Grand Council of 1854, to effect a union with the Senior Council; accordingly, at the Annual Assemblies of these Bodies in June, 1860, they were united under proper "Articles," and thus the illegitimacy which had existed in the new organization, was entirely healed. The Grand Council of the State of New York, as united, is therefore the oldest in the Union, and one of the most prosperous in numbers and respectability."

The officers of a Council of Royal Master Masons are as follows: Royal Master, whose style is Thrice Illustrious; Deputy Royal Master, whose style is Illustrious; Royal Warden; Royal Marshal; Senior Royal Marshal; Junior Royal Marshal; Treasurer; Recorder; Herald; Sentinel.

In the Grand Council of Royal Master Masons, the style of the Grand Master is Most Illustrious, and that of the next five officers, Illustrious.

The officers of a Council of Select Masters in 1821, were as follows: Puissant Master; Deputy Master; Illustrious Master; Principal Conductor; Recorder; Treasurer; Captain of the Guards; Marshal; Steward; Sentinel.

The Committee on Unfinished Business presented the following report, which was, on motion, received and ordered spread on the Minutes and the Committee were discharged.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

The Committee on Unfinished Business find pleasure in reporting that their examination of the proceedings of the Grand Body discloses such a masterly activity in the administration of this Body, that no unfinished business appears on the record.

C. H. Platt,
S. H. Stone, } Committee.
Jno. B. Harris,

R. P. Comp. S. H. Stone offered the following resolution, which was, on motion, unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That Section 1, of Article I, of the Constitution be amended by inserting, after the words Grand Chaplains, the words "Grand Lecturer."

On motion, the election of officers was made the special order for three o'clock on Wednesday, the 5th inst.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the next Session of this Grand Council be held at two o'clock, P. M., on Wednesday.

The proposed amendment to the Constitution offered at the last Annual Assembly, was taken up for action, and on the vote being taken, the same was declared lost.

The Grand Council then took a recess.

Wednesday, June 5th, 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Council resumed its Session. Present:

R. P. Seymour H. Stone, as Grand Master.

Officers and Representatives as before, with the addition of the Representatives of the following Councils, to which Warrants were granted on Tuesday: Pennell, No. 2; King Hiram, No. 18; Doric, No. 19; Keystone, No. 20; Hudson River, No. 21.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and the Committee discharged:

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Credentials and Returns would report, that they have examined the returns of the various Councils, and find them correct, and that the following Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, and Representatives are entitled to seats in this Grand Council:

M. P. Nathan O. Benjamin.....G. M.
R. P. Seymour H. Stone.....Dep. G. M.
R. P. Vincent W. Bate.....G. Ill. M.
R. P. Charles H. Platt.....G. P. C. of the W.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....G. Recorder.
R. P. John B. Harris.....G. Treasurer.
R. P. Richard Bloss.....G. C. of the G.
R. P. Charles E. Gillett.....G. Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. Henry C. Vogell.....G. Chaplain.
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.....G. Lecturer.
P. Greenfield Pote.....G. Sentinel
M. P. John B. Yates Sommers..... ...P. G. M.
M. P. John B. Willis.....P. G. M.
M. P. H. F. L. Bunting.....P. G. M.
M. P. Jonathan Jarvis .....P. G. M.
R. P. Augustus Willard .....P. D. G. M.
R. P. George Godfrey .....P. G. Ill. M.
R. P. J. T. Brush.....P. G. Ill. M.
R. P. Walter T. Marvin.....P. G. P. C.
R. P. David Wagstaff .....P. G. P. C.
Columbian Council, No. 1.....D. Wolff, P. C. of W.
Pennell Council, No. 2.....Enoch P. Breed, Master.
Brooklyn Council, No. 4.....John B. Harris, Master.

Adelphic Council, No. 7.....David B. Howell, Master.
Eureka Council, No. 8.....Aug. Willard, Master.
Oneida Council, No. 12....Sanford Adams, Dep. Master.
Central City Council, No. 13..Seymour H. Stone, Master,
and Stiles M. Rust, Dep. Master.
Bloss Council, No. 14....Charles Teson, P. C. of the W.
Bruce Council, No. 15....Rev. Charles H. Platt, Master.
Southern Tier Council, No. 16..Chas. E. Gillett, Master.
Buffalo Council, No. 17.....William Gould, Master.
King Hiram Council, No. 18..Rev. Chas. H. Platt, Proxy.
Doric Council, No. 19.....Wm. E. Lathrop, Master.
Keystone Council, No. 20.....Michael Pinner, Master.
Hudson River Council, No. 21,
J. D. Hasbrouck, Dep. Master.

Respectfully submitted,

Josiah Shove,)
Jno. B. Harris) Committee.
S. H. Stone,)

The Committee on Grievances presented the following Report, which was on motion, received:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. Masters of the State of York:

Your Standing Committee on Grievances and Appeals respectfully beg leave to report, that no matters of appeals or grievances having been presented for their consideration, proves that "the Union of 1860," was truly a Union "of Hearts," as well as "of Hands;" and while we, as true Men and Masons—true to the Government under which we live, "and to our obligations as Select Masters" must, and do, most deeply deplore the dissensions, discord, and disunion that agitate and convulse our beloved country—we congratulate the Grand Council of the State of New York, upon the harmony, union and prosperity of Cryptic Masonry throughout its jurisdiction.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Chas. E. Gillett,)
John B. Harris,) Committee.
W. Gould,)

A petition was received from Columbian Council, No. 1, asking that it be allowed to hold its Annual Election for Officers on or before the 24th of June, in accordance with their former custom; and on motion, it was received, and referred to the Committee on Constitutions.

The Committee on Constitutions reported that they had taken the matter into consideration, and offered the following proposed amendment to the Constitutions:

Resolved, That Section 6, Article II, of the Constitutions be amended, by adding "except in the case of Columbian Council, No. 1, which shall be permitted to hold their election as always heretofore, at the regular Assembly on or next preceding the Festival of St. John the Baptist."

And on motion, the same was adopted, so far as it can be at one session. The hour for the special order of the election of officers having arrived, M. P. Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers, P. G. M., was invited to preside.

The M. P. appointed as Tellers, R. P. Charles H. Platt and R. P. George Godfrey.

M. P Nathan O. Benjamin was re-elected. Grand Master.
R. P. Seymour H. Stone was re-elected. Dep. Grd Master.
R. P. Charles H. Platt was elected.... Grand Ill. Master.
T. I. William Gould was elected.... Grd. P. C. of the W.
R. P Josiah Shove was re-elected..... Grand Recorder.
R. P. John B. Harris was re-elected.... Grand Treasurer.

M. P. Comp. J. B. Yates Sommers duly installed the Grand Master-elect, and the Grand Master then installed the remaining officers.

The Grand Master announced the following appointments:

R. P. Charles E. Gillett, as..... Grand C. of the G.
T. I. William E. Lathrop, as..... Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. Henry C. Vogell, D. D
Rev. Amos B. Beach, D. D., } Grand Chaplains.
Rev. James Freeman,
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk, as..... Grand Lecturer.
Ill. Charles Teson, as..... Grand Steward.
P. Greenfield Pote, as ..... Grand Sentinel.

And the above named Companions were duly installed by the G. M.

The Grand Marshal then proclaimed the installation of the officers of the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in Ample Form.

The following Standing Committees were announced by the Grand Master:

On Foreign Correspondence:—T. I. Enoch P. Breed, R. P. Josiah Shove and R. P. John B. Harris.

On Unfinished Business:—R. P. Seymour H. Stone, R. P. Charles E. Gillett and T. I. Michael Pinner.

The Special Committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's Address as referred to deceased Companions, presented the following report, which was, on motion received, and ordered spread upon the Minutes and their recommendation was adopted.

To the M. P. G. Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

The attention of your Committee was directed to the mention by our M. P. G. Master, of deceased Companions. The melancholy duty is deputed to us of recalling the record of their usefulness and merit. Justice to the living as well as to the dead prompts us to join our full accord with the tribute to the memory of honored and worthy Companions,which our M. P. G. Master has expressed in fitting, chaste, and touching language of eulogy. We deplore the rupture from the earthly body of three such souls, as those of the talented—how brilliant alike in legislation, law, and literature—of the Reverend and R. P. Grand Chaplain Gray, whose memory is the fragrance of sanctified purity; and of the Most Worthy Steward of this Grand Council, the lamented Wright—illustrious no less by his personal virtues than by official title.

The loss of these cherished Companions from our earthly fellowship is the extinguishment of three burning and shining lights. But the trowel of our Omnipotent Grand Master still remains to ring the promises of reconstruction through the arches of the sepulchre, and the sound of His unceasing labor assures us that He has assigned them to refreshment and rest, as workmen that need not to be ashamed. The sudden summons of one of these Companions to relinquish the implements and wait for the descending glory is the admonition to us to be also ready; and that we, mayhap, shall experience, what a good man once implored, and "cease at once to work and live." In the demise of our Reverend Companion, we taste the grief of them that mourn, but who sorrow not without hope, while the voice of the dead yet speaketh, and exhorted us to patience and perseverance in well-doing.

And in our sympathy with the friends that cherish the name of our departed Companion Wright, we are aware that the grave does sometimes justify the epitaph, " 'Tis the survivor dies." But the majesty and the mystery of Death hush our human languages.

Omnipotence must speak to immortality. To the Father of Mercies we have consigned the dead, and we now commend the anguished and the bereaved.

Your Committee, recognizing the simple and unostentatious virtues of the Companions we commemorate, would recommend that a copy of this report be transmitted to the families of each of our three lamented Companions, as a suitable expression of our condolence.

Chas. H. Platt,
M. Pinner,
J. D. Hasbrouck, } Committee.

New York, June 5th, 2861.

The Special Committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's Address as referred to a General Grand Council, presented the following report, and, on motion, it was received and ordered spread upon the Minutes, and the resolution accompanying the same was adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

The undersigned Committee, to which was referred so much of the Grand Master's Address as relates to proposed formation of a General Grand Council, having given the subject such attention as the limited time has allowed, respectfully beg leave to report:

In January, 1798, several Royal Arch Chapters, by their representatives met at the City of Hartford, and by the election of officers and adoption of a Constitution, formed the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America, under the advice of which the several Royal Arch Chapters within the State of New York met at Albany in March following, and formed what was then styled the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New York, the presiding officer of which was Deputy Grand High Priest.

At the first subsequent meeting held in March, 1799, the name of that Grand Body was changed and it became the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New York. It will be observed that the General Grand Chapter, as well as the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, was the creature of Subordinate Chapters.

Under the present Constitution of the G. G. Royal Arch Chapter, its powers and authority have little influence upon or control over the Grand or Subordinate Chapters, and it accomplishes little save fostering petty discord and giving high-sounding titles to men, who do not need them, and the tendency of legislation in that distinguished body is to diminish its powers and reduce its authority.

The Grand Encampment of the United States derives its origin from the Supreme Body in the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and by its authority all conclaves of Templars, whether Grand or Subordinate, have been formed. The proper maintenance of law and subjection in an institution semi-military in its character may require a supreme head, a Grand Encampment and a Grand Master. Several attempts have been made to establish a General Grand Lodge, or failing in that, a Convention or Congress of Representatives of Grand Lodges, with greater or less powers.

At Chicago in 1859 delegates from many of the more prominent Grand Lodges, met and agreed upon a plan for the formation of a Congress, but when the plan was submitted to the several Grand Lodges, it was with great unanimity rejected.

So much has been said for the purpose of showing that no General Grand Council can be formed in accordance with the course pursued by Royal Arch Masons or Knights Templar, and that the sentiment of Masons is averse to controlling bodies having a jurisdiction co-extensive with the territory of the United States, exemplified in the case of a proposed General Grand Lodge, or substitute therefor, and for the further purpose of furnishing an excellent basis for making some remarks expressive of the opinion of your Committee upon the subject before them.

The great object to be attained by a General Grand Council seems to be the formation of a body, to which shall be referred all questions of jurisdiction of constitutional law, and of differences in work and lectures. Your Committee ask pardon for adding, by way of suggestion, that the hope of finding a superlative addition to Most Puissant may be another great reason for the establishment of a Supreme Government in Cryptic Masonry, which shall spread its Arch over the whole country.

Neither the history of Royal Arch Masonry for the last twenty years, nor that of Knighthood for a like period, give any force or weight to the affirmative arguments upon this question.

Uniformity of work is not established by the General Grand Chapter, nor will it be until some yet unpracticed means and agencies are discovered. A few States may have a similar work, but not because of any power of the General Grand Chapter.

Questions of jurisdiction are settled not by the edicts of General Grand Bodies, but by the co-operation of the fraternal spirits of the parties. Constitutional law finds its best exponent in Grand Chapter authorities, and is rarely aided by the confused light of the Supreme Head. And the interests of Cryptic Masonry in this behalf may be better referred to Well's settled Masonic law, than to any extraordinary and irresponsible Congress of Select Masons, holding

no power to enforce an edict. Your Committee would not be understood to beg the question. A simple reference to the obligations of Royal and Select Masters will convince any one that a Select Mason as such, cannot be bound by any alleged Masonic law to which he has not given his assent. Constitutions differ in the several Masonic jurisdictions; so do the atmospheres, so do the geological conformations; and it would be quite as wise and quite as likely to meet with success, to attempt to produce similarity in the one as in the other. But to those Constitutions the Select Masters under each are severally bound. Their authority is supreme—cannot be changed—cannot be set aside.

Your Committee do not believe that any G. G. Council Congress, or Convention with any real authority whatever, can be organized.

Subordinate Councils and members of such know no such power and will not recognize its existence. Such a body would be a complete innovation upon all principles of Masonry and no advantage to Select Masters would result; on the contrary, conflict between the real power of the Grand Council and the gossamer power of the General Grand Council, and between both and Subordinates, would continually furnish cause of bitterness, dissatisfaction and disobedience.

Respect for law and edicts would vanish, and the beauty and symmetry of the Masonic edifice would be marred by an overhanging superstructure, costly, useless and of imminent danger to all.

Your Committee submit to your consideration the resolution hereto appended.

Fraternally,

E. P. Breed,
Chas. E. Gillett, } Committee.
Sewall T. Fisk,

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Council, the formation of a General Grand Council of the United States is inexpedient.

The Committee on Regalia and Jewels presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, and the Committee were continued, with power to procure the remaining Regalia wanted, as fast as the funds of the Grand Council would warrant:

To the M. P. Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Committee, appointed at the last Annual Assembly, to complete the set of Regalia and Jewels for this Grand Council, would respectfully report; "That they have completed the set of Jewels which are now in use by this Grand Body; but fearing that the expense of filling up the set of Regalia in the same style, as that we now have, might prove more expensive than the exchequer of the Grand Council would now warrant, they have not deemed it advisable to act further in the matter, without the order of this M. P. Grand Body."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

N. O. Benjamin, }
Jno. B. Harris, } Committee.
J. Shove, }

New York, June 4th, 1861.

The Finance Committee presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received:

To the M. P. Grand Council of the State of New York:

Your Finance Committee would respectfully report that they have examined the accounts of vouchers of the Recorder and Treasurer and find them correct.

D. B. Howell, }
S. M. Rust, } Committee.
Wm. Gould, }

Dated, New York, June 5th, 1861.

Bills for $120.00 and $14.16 were presented, and on motion they were received, and referred to the Finance Committee with power. On motion, it was

Resolved, That the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council be held in the City of New York, on the first Monday in June, A. D. 1862, at 2 o'clock, P. M., at such place in said City as may be selected by the Executive Officers of the Grand Council.

On motion, the salary of the Grand Recorder for the past year was fixed at $75, and of the Grand Sentinel at $7.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Recorder be authorized to have five hundred copies of the Proceedings printed, and that he be directed to distribute the same in the usual manner.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That one thousand copies of the Constitutions of the Grand Council of this State, together with the General Regulations, Rules of Order, Installation Service and the Report of the Committee on History, be published and furnished to the Subordinate Councils, in numbers sufficient to furnish each member with a copy.

No further business appearing the Grand Council was closed with prayer and in Ample Form.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

MONEYS RECEIVED DURING THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Columbian, No. 1. Dues	$7.00
Pennell, No. 2. Dues	6.50
Pennell, No. 2. Balance on Warrant	10.00
Brooklyn, No. 4. Dues	16.38
Adelphic, No. 7. Dues	54.75
Eureka, No. 8. Dues	5.00
Oneida, No. 12. Dues	2.25
Central City, No. 13. Dues	9.61
Bloss, No. 14. Dues	12.63
Bruce, No. 15. Dues	20.00
Southern Tier, No. 16. Dues	13.10
Buffalo, No. 17. Dues	19.13
King Hiram, No. 18. Dues	15.25
King Hiram, No. 18. Balance on Warrant	10.00
Doric, No. 19. Dues	10.50
Doric, No. 19. Balance on Warrant	10.00
Keystone, No. 20. Dues	7.24
Keystone, No. 20. Balance on Warrant	10.00
Hudson River, No. 21. Dues	8.75
Hudson River, No. 21. Balance on Warrant	10.00
	$258.09

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Section 6, Artice II. To add these words; "Except in the case of Columbian Council, No. 1, which shall be permitted to hold their election as always heretofore at the Regular Assembly on or next preceding the Festival of St. John the Baptist,;" so that the Section shall read:

Section 6, Article II. The first five officers of a Subordinate Council heretofore named, must be chosen annually, by ballot and by a majority of votes, at the Regular Assembly immediately preceding the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, and must be installed on or before the next Regular Assembly thereafter; and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the Master, and hold office during his pleasure; except in the case of Columbian Council, No. 1, which shall be permitted to hold their election as always heretofore at the Regular Assembly on or next preceding the Festival of St. John, the Baptist.

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL, 2861-2862.

M. P. Nathan O. Benjamin, Grand Master.....New York

R. P. Seymour H. Stone, Dep. Gr. Master.....Syracuse

R. P. Charles H. Platt, Gr. Illus. Master.....Auburn

R. P. William Gould, Gr. P. C. of the W.....Buffalo

R. P. Josiah Shove, Gr. Recorder.....New York

R. P. John B. Harris, Gr. Treasurer.....Brooklyn

R. P. Charles E. Gillett, Gr. C. of the G.....Elmira

R. P. William E. Lathrop, Gr. Marshal.....Rochester

Grand Chaplains.

R. P. and Rev. Henry C. Vogell, D. D., ...Utica

R. P. and Rev. Amos B. Beach, D. D.....Syracuse

R. P. and Rev. James Freeman, ...New York

R. P. Sewall T. Fisk, Gr. Lecturer.....New York

P. Charles Teson, Gr. Steward.....Troy

P. Greenfield Pote, Gr. Sentinel.....New York

ADDRESSES:

Grand Master, N. O. Benjamin..424 Broadway, N. Y.

Grand Recorder, Josiah Shove...33 Nassau St., N. Y.

[N. B.—Documents sent to the Grand Master or Grand Recorder, at New York should have the number and street as above.]

Officers of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York

From it Institution in Eighteen hundred and seven

Showing the date and day of the week on which the elections were held

Date.	Grand Master.	Deputy Grand Master.	Gr. Illus. Master.
1807.	Thomas Lownds	Records lost.	
1808.	Thomas Lownds		
1809.	Thomas Lownds		
1810. Sept. 2; Sun.	Thomas Lownds	John E. Ruckell	William Craig
1811. June 21; Fri.	Thomas Lownds	Robert Young	John Utt
1812. June 21; Sun.	Thomas Lownds	Robert Young	S. O. Smith
1813. June 21; Mon.	Thomas Lownds	Robert Howard	John Utt
1814. June 21; Tues.	Thomas Lownds	Robert Howard	John Utt
1815. June 21; Wed.	Thomas Lownds	Asa Hall	Robert Young
1816. June 21; Fri.	Thomas Lownds	Edward Higgins	Lewis Seymour
1817. June 21; Sat.	Thomas Lownds	Edward Higgins	Gerrit Morgan
1818. June 28; Sun.	Thomas Lownds	Levi Nathan	Silas Lyon
1819. July 7; Mon.	Thomas Lownds	John G. Munn	Gerrit Morgan
1820. June 21; Wed.	Silas Lyon	Gerrit Lansing	Hosea Dodge
1821. June 21; Thur.	Silas Lyon	Gerrit Lansing	Hosea Dodge
1822. June 21; Fri.	Oliver M. Lownds	William F. Piatt	W. Bedell
1823. June 21; Sat.	Thomas Lownds	Edward Higgins	Gerrit Morgan
1824. June 21; Mon.	Thomas Lownds	Edward Higgins	Gerrit Morgan
1825. June 21; Tues.	Oliver M. Lownds	Edward Higgins	Gerrit Morgan

Date.	Grand Master.	Deputy Grand Master.	Gr. Illus. Master.
1826. July 12; Wed.	Gerrit Morgan	William F. Piatt	Henry Marsh
1827. June 21; Thur.	William F. Piatt	Henry Marsh	F. L. Wilsey
1828. June 21; Sat.	Henry Marsh	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds
1829. June 20; Sat.	Henry Marsh	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds
1830. June 21; Mon.	Henry Marsh	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds
1831. June 15; Wed.	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1832. June 21; Thur.	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1833. June 21; Fri.	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1834. June 21; Sat.	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1835. June 20; Sat.	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1836. June 21; Tues.	Richard Ellis	Fredk. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1837. June 21; Wed.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1838. June 21; Thur.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1839. June 21; Fri.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1840. June 20; Sat.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1841. June 21; Mon.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	J. R. Bailey
1842. June 21; Tues.	Richard Ellis	Fred'k. W. Leeds	Jared L. Moore
1843. June 21; Wed.	Richard Ellis*	Fred'k. W. Leeds	Jared L. Moore
1844. June 21; Fri.	Fredk. W. Leeds	Samuel Maverick	Anthony Chapple
1845. June 21; Sat.	Fredk. W. Leeds.	Anthony Chapple	Sewall Fisk
1846. June 20; Sat.	Fredk. W. Leeds	Anthony Chapple	Sewall Fisk
1847. June 21; Mon.	Fredk. W. Leeds	Anthony Chapple	Sewall Fisk
1848. June 21; Wed.	Fredk. W. Leeds	Anthony Chapple	Jonathan Jarvis
1849. June 29; Fri.	Jonathan Jarvis	C. W. Carpenter	Charles Watkins

1850.	June 21; Fri.	Jonathan Jarvis	C. W. Carpenter	Charles Watkins
1851.	June 21; Sat.	Jonathan Jarvis	C. W. Carpenter	Charles Watkins
1852.	June 21; Mon.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	Wm. H. Norris
1853.	June 21; Tues.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	Wm. H. Norris
1854.	June 22; Tues.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	Wm. H. Norris
"	June 19; Sat.	M. J. Drummond	J. B. Y. Sommers	John J. Tinsdale
1855.	July 2; Mon.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	Wm. H. Norris
"	June 6; Wed.	J. B. Yates Sommers	H. F. L. Bunting	John J. Tinsdale
1856.	June 21; Sat.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	Wm. H. Norris
"	June 4; Wed.	Hen. F. L. Bunting	Thos. C. Edwards	James T. Brush
1857.	June 20; Sat.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	John B. Willis
"	June 3; Wed.	John J. Tinsdale	Thos. C. Edwards	N. O. Benjamin
1858.	June 21; Mon.	Jonathan Jarvis	Charles Watkins	John B. Willis
"	June 3; Thur.	N. O. Benjamin	Thos. C. Edwards	Augustus Willard
1859.	June 21; Tues.	John B. Willis	Wm. W. Nexsen	George Godfrey
"	June 8; Wed.	N. O. Benjamin	Augustus Willard	Bradley Parker
1860.	June 7; Thur.	N. O. Benjamin	Seymour H. Stone	Vincent W. Bate
1861.	June 5; Wed.	N. O. Benjamin	Seymour H. Stone	Charles H. Platt

* Died in office, Jan., 1844.

Officers of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York

From its Institution in Eighteen hundred and seven

Showing the date and day of the week on which the elections were held

Date.	G. P. C. of W.	Grand Treasurer.	Grand Recorder.
1807.	Records lost.		
1808.			
1809.			
1810. Sept. 2; Sun.	John Marmed	Peter Roome	James Humbert
1811. June 21; Fri.	John P. Roome	Peter Roome	James Humbert
1812. June 21; Sun.	John E. Rich	John P Roome	Peter Roome
1813. June 21; Mon.	John E. Rich	John P Roome	Peter Roome
1814. June 21; Tues.	John E. Rich	John P. Roome	Peter Roome
1815. June 21; Wed.	Edward Higgins	John P. Roome	Peter Roome
1816. June 21; Fri.	Gerrit Morgan	John P. Roome	Peter Roome
1817. June 21; Sat.	Sam'l Maverick	William Craig	Silas Lyon
1818. June 28; Sun.	Joseph Potter	H. Westervelt	B. W. Peck
1819. July 7; Mon.	Joseph Potter	Silas Lyon	John W. Gibbs
1820. June 21; Wed.	Pierre T. Decevee	C. Bacon	Thomas Slade
1821. June 21; Thur.	Pierre T. Decevee	Ransom Beach	Thomas Slade
1822. June 21; Fri.	J. B. Camp	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1823. June 21; Sat.	Lewis Seymour	Lucius C. Bowles	Oliver M. Lownds
1824. June 21; Mon.	Lewis Seymour	Lebbens Chapman	Oliver M. Lownds
1825. June 21; Tues.	William F Piatt.	Lebbens Chapman	Thomas Slade

1826.	July 12; Wed.	Camp'll Bushnell	Lebbens Chapman	Thomas Slade
1827.	June 21; Thur.	Cyrus Curtis	Lebbens Chapman	Thomas Slade
1828.	June 21; Sat.	J. Miller	Lebbens Chapman	Thomas Slade
1829.	June 20; Sat.	J. Miller	Lebbens Chapman	Thomas Slade
1830.	June 21; Mon.	J. Miller	Lebbens Chapman	Thomas Slade
1831.	June 15; Wed.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1832.	June 21; Thur.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1833.	June 21; Fri.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1834.	June 21; Sat.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1835.	June 20; Sat.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1836.	June 21; Tues.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1837.	June 21; Wed.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1838.	June 21; Thur.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1839.	June 21; Fri.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1840.	June 20; Sat.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1841.	June 21; Mon.	Silas Lyon	Edward Higgins	Thomas Slade
1842.	June 21; Tues.	Samuel Maverick	Daniel West	Sylvester Spencer
1843.	June 21; Wed.	Samuel Maverick	Daniel West	Sylvester Spencer
1844.	June 21; Fri.	Wm. W. Nexsen	Daniel West	Sylvester Spencer
1845.	June 21; Sat.	Ransom Beach	Daniel West	Sylvester Spencer
1846.	June 20; Sat.	Ransom Beach	Daniel West	Wm. W. Nexsen
1847.	June 21; Mon.	Ransom Beach	Daniel West	Wm. W. Nexsen
1848.	June 21; Wed.	Ransom Beach	Daniel West	Wm. W. Nexsen
1849.	June 29; Fri.	John Scott	Daniel West	Wm. W. Nexsen
1850.	June 21; Fri.	Wm. W. Nexsen	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds
1851.	June 21; Sat.	Wm. W. Nexsen	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds
1852.	June 21; Mon.	John B. Willis	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds

Date.		G. P. C. of W.	Grand Treasurer.	Grand Recorder.
1853.	June 21; Tues.	John B. Willis	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds
1854.	June 22; Tues.	John B. Willis	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds
"	June 19; Sat.	H. F. L. Bunting	D. S. Sinclair	Philip Pritchard
1855.	July 2; Mon.	John B. Willis	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds
"	June 6; Wed.	N. O. Benjamin	D. S. Sinclair	Robert Macoy
1856.	June 21; Sat.	John B. Willis	Daniel West	Fred'k. W. Leeds
"	June 4; Wed.	David Wagstaff	D. S. Sinclair	Robert Macoy
1857.	June 20; Sat.	Robert Roberts	Daniel West	William J. Surre
"	June 3; Wed.	Augustus Willard	John W. Simons	Josiah Shove
1858.	June 21; Mon.	Robert Roberts	Daniel West	William J. Surre
"	June 3; Thur.	Bradley Parker	Sam'l B. Tobey, Jr	Josiah Shove
1859.	June 21; Tues.	Vincent W. Bate	Daniel West	William J. Surre
"	June 8; Wed.	Walter T. Marvin	R. G. Millard	Josiah Shove
1860.	June 7; Thur.	Charles H. Platt	John B. Harris	Josiah Shove
1861.	June 5; Wed.	William Gould	John B. Harris	Josiah Shove

NOTE. From 1854 to 1859 inclusive, there were two Grand Councils, viz.: The Grand Council of Royal Master Masons and The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, which were united in June, 1860, under the style and title of The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

Officers of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Council.	Master.	Deputy Master.	Prin. C. of W.	Recorder.
1 Columbian	Jonathan Jarvis	John B. Willis	Daniel Wolff	George Godfrey
2 Pennell	Enoch P. Breed	Elijah W. Whipple	William J. Scott	J. T. Couenhoven
4 Brooklyn	John B. Harris	J. S. Swan	Geo. B. Flanders	Richard Sharp
7 Adelphic	David B. Howell	John Cameron	Jas. W. Middleton	N. O. Benjamin
8 Eureka	Aug. Willard	S. S. Beckwith	Robert P. Barnard	Peter B. Rathbone
12 Oneida	Geo. F. Bicknell	S. F. Tremaine	Harman G. Utley	William Dickinson
13 Central City	Seymour H. Stone	Stiles M. Rust	Charles W. Snow	Geo. J. Gardner
14 Bloss	Richard Bloss	George Babcock	Charles Teson	L. A. Rousseau
15 Bruce	Chas. H. Platt	Charles Craig	Daniel A. Knapp	E. L. Blake
16 Southern Tier	Chas. E. Gillett	Geo. S. McCann	Edgar C. Merrill	A. S. Satterlee
17 Buffalo	William Gould	James McCredie	James Inglis	H. F. Kenyon
18 King Hiram	Joseph M. Morris	Samuel Graves	Wm. H. Barnes	H. Wilson
19 Doric	Wm. E. Lathrop	Wm. F. Holmes	William S. Alling	Samuel C. Steele
20 Keystone	Michael Pinner	William Fleming	Abram S. Swartz	
21 Hudson River	Geo. F. Von Beck	J. D. Hasbrouck	Geo. W. Smith	Silas Sexton
22 DeWitt Clinton	Edward H. Jones	Peter P. Wendell	Jackson H. Chase	

Abstract of Annual Returns of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Council.	Town.	County.	Received and greeted	Affiliated	Dimitted	Stricken from roll	Died	Present number members
1 Columbian	New York	New York	2	..	..	....	..	29
2 Pennell	New York	New York	7	..	..	....	..	19
4 Brooklyn	Brooklyn	Kings	14	..	..	...	1	44
7 Adelphic	New York	New York	28	2	21	....	3	160
8 Eureka	Greene	Chenango	....	..	1	....	1	20
12 Oneida	Rome	Oneida	....	..	1	...	1	9
13 Central City	Syracuse	Onondaga	3	..	..	....	2	34
14 Bloss	Troy	Rensselaer	12	..	..	....	1	31
15 Bruce	Lockport	Niagara	28	..	5	....	..	54
16 Southern Tier	Elmira	Chemung	12	..	..	....	..	33
17 Buffalo	Buffalo	Erie	23	..	..	....	..	32
18 King Hiram	Auburn	Cayuga	15	..	1	....	2	21
19 Doric	Rochester	Monroe	9	2	..	....	..	31
20 Keystone	Buffalo	Erie	7	..	..	....	..	16
21 Hudson River	Rondout	Ulster	....	..	..	....	..	14
22 DeWitt Clinton	Albany	Albany	....	..	..	....	..	10
			160	4	29	....	11	557

Address of the Grand Masters and Grand Recorders

Of the Grand Councils of the United States

State.	Grand Master.	Address.	Grand Recorder.	Address.
Alabama	James B. Harrison	Selma	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery
Arkansas	Luke E. Barber	Little Rock	E. H. English	Little Rock
California				
Connecticut	Howard B. Ensign	New Haven	E. G. Storer	New Haven
Florida	Thomas Haywood	Tallahassee	John B. Taylor	Tallahassee
Georgia	Philip T. Schley	Savannah	Benj. B. Russell	Augusta
Illinois	G. W. Deering	Chicago	H. G. Reynolds	Springfield
Indiana	William Hacker	Shelbyville	Francis King	Indianapolis
Iowa	Theodore S. Parvin	Iowa City	W. B. Langridge	Muscatine
Kentucky	Philip Swigert	Frankfort	A. G. Hodges	Frankfort
Louisiana	John H. Holland	New Orleans	Samuel G. Risk	Box R48, New Orleans
Maine	Abner B. Thompson	Brunswick	Ira Berry	Portland
Massachusetts	George W. Buckley	Worcester	H. G. Barrow	Boston
Michigan	Frank Darrow	Pontiac	Nath'l P. Jacobs	Detroit
Mississippi	William Cothran	Carrollton	R. W. T. Daniel	Jackson
New Jersey	William Mead	Newark	Joseph H. Hough	Trenton
New York	N. O. Benjamin	424 Broadway, New York	Josiah Shove	33 Nassau St., New York
Ohio	Chas. C. Kiefer	Dayton	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati
Pennsylvania	Alfred Creigh	Washington	Thos. W. Wright	Pittsburg
Rhode Island	James Salisbury	Providence	John F. Driscol	Providence
South Carolina	A. G. Mackey	Charleston	H. W. Schroeder	Charleston
Tennessee	Jonathan Huntington	Nashville	Chas. A. Fuller	Nashville
Texas	Edward Clark	Austin	Andrew Neill	Galveston
Vermont	Henry Ruggles	Poultney	John B. Hollenbeck	Burlington
Wisconsin	A. Sidney Wood	Madison	S. G. Benedict	Madison

Statistical Table of Grand Councils

STATE	Year of organization	Number of Councils at organization	TRANSACTIONS FROM WHICH COMPILED		No. Councils making returns	Received and greeted during year	Affiliated during year	Dimitted during year	Suspended during year	Expelled during year	Stricken from roll during year	Died during year	Number members	Average members per Council
Alabama	1838	2	December	1860	16	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	474	29
Arkansas	1860	4	November	1860	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	*120	30
California	1860	4	....	....	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	120	30
Connecticut	1819	11	May	1860	21	105	....	....	....	....	....	12	912	43
Florida	1858	3	January	1860	6	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	*150	25
Georgia	1825	....	April	1860	17	60	18	6	1	1	....	7	490	29
Illinois	1853	3	September	1860	5	47	....	....	....	....	....	....	174	35
Indiana	1855	3	May	1860	12	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	336	28
Iowa	1857	3	August	1860	5	15	1	5	2	....	....	2	160	32
Kentucky	1827	....	October	1858	15	....	....	....	1	....	....	10	500	33

Louisiana	1856	4	February	1860	4	57	6	....	....	...	....	7	221	55
Maine	1855	3	May	1860	7	....	....	....	....	....	...	....	153	22
Massachusetts	1826	7	December	1860	5	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	*400	80
Michigan	1858	3	January	1861	10	44	....	7	....	....	....	3	237	23
Mississippi	1856	7	January	1860	22	145	....	....	...	....	....	....	722	33
New Jersey	1860	3	November	1860	4	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	*160	40
New York	1807	....	June	1861	16	160	4	29	....	....	....	11	557	35
Ohio	1829	....	October	1859	29	100	2	....	....	....	40	6	824	29
Pennsylvania	1847	4	June	1860	15	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	460	30
Rhode Island	1860	3			3	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	*100	33
South Carolina	1860	9	February	1860	9	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	*270	30
Tennessee	1847	....	October	1859	15	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	*450	30
Texas	1856	4	June	1860	21	71	5	25	1	....	....	5	599	28
Vermont	1854	4	August	1860	10	...	....	2	....	..	....	5	457	45
Wisconsin	1857	3	October	1859	3	14	....	....	....	....	....	....	61	20
			Total		278	818	36	74	5	1	40	68	9107	857

*Estimated.

GRAND COUNCIL—ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Grand Council Room,

Monday, June 2d, A. D. 1862. A. Dep. 2862.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York convened in Annual Assembly in the City of New York, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the last Annual Assembly, on Monday, June 2d, A. D. 1862, A. Dep. 2862. Present:

M. P. Nathan O. Benjamin.....Grand Master.
R. P. Charles H. Platt.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. William Gould.....Grand P. C. of the Work.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. John B. Harris.....Grand Treasurer.
R. P. Charles E. Gillett.....Grand C. of the G.
R. P. William Lathrop.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.....Grand Lecturer.
P. Charles Teson.....Grand Steward.
P. Greenfield Pote.....Grand Sentinel.
M. P. Jonathan Jarvis..... ....Past Grand Master.
R. P. George Godfrey.....Past Gr. Ill. Master.
T. I. E. P. Breed.....Past Master.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Columbian, No. 1,	Bruce, No. 15,
Brooklyn, No. 4,	Southern Tier, No. 16,
Adelphic, No. 7,	Buffalo, No. 17,
Central City, No. 13,	King Hiram, No. 18,
Bloss, No. 14,	Keystone, No. 20.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form by the M. P. Grand Master. On motion, it was

Resolved, That all Companion Select Masters in good standing in the Order be invited as visitors in this Grand Council.

The M. P. Grand Master then presented his Annual Address, which was, on motion, ordered to be spread at length upon the Minutes, and referred to a Committee of three to apportion the various subjects therein treated to various Committees.

The M. P. appointed as Committee on Address, R. P. Charles H. Platt, R. P. J. B. Harris, and R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.

The Committee on Grand Master's Address presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, the Committee was discharged, and its recommendation adopted:

The Committee to whom was referred the Grand Master's Address, respectfully recommend that so much as relates to Warrant of De Witt Clinton Council be referred to the Committee on Warrants, and so much as relates to Records of Grand Council of R. M., be referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, and the subject of Grand Council indebtedness be referred to the Finance Committee for inquiry as to the proper expedient for relief.

Respectfully submitted,

C. H. Platt,
John B. Harris, } Committee.
Sewall T. Fisk,

The Grand Council took a recess until 7.30 o'clock P. M.

Tuesday, June 3d, 7.30 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Council resumed its Session. Officers and Representatives as before.

The Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees:

On Credentials:—R. P. J. Shove, R. P. J. B. Harris and M. P. Jonathan Jarvis.

On Warrants:—R. P. Charles H. Platt, T. I. D. B. Howell and R. P. Richard Bloss.

On Constitutions:—T. I. E. J. Spink, T. I. S. M. Rust and R. P. S. T. Fisk.

On Grievances and Appeals:—R. P. William Gould, R. P. Chas. E. Gillett and R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.

On Finance:—R. P. Richard Bloss, T. I. D. B. Howell and T. I. S. M. Rust.

The Committee on Unfinished Business presented the following Report:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Unfinished Business respectfully beg leave to report that they have examined the proceedings of the Grand Council at the last Annual Assembly, and find that the business was transacted with such harmony, energy and dispatch,

that its business was finished, leaving nothing for your Committee to do, but express the hope that the present Session may be concluded with like results.

Chas. E. Gillett, }
M. Penner, } Committee.

The Grand Recorder presented the following Annual Report, which was received, and referred to the Finance Committee.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York

Your Recorder offers the following Annual Report:

Receipts June 5, 1861, during the Session....	$258.09
Receipts June 2, 1862, during the Session....	3.00
	$261.09

All of which has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, and his receipt taken therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following Annual Report, which was received and referred to the Finance Committee.

To the Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York.

Your Treasurer would beg leave to present the following Report:

June 5, 1861. Received from the Grand Recorder.		$258.09
June 2, 1862. Received from the Grand Recorder.		3.00
Amount received from the late Treasurer.....		14.77
		$275.86
Paid the following Warrants:		
No. 30	$120.00	
31	75.00	
32.....	7.00	
33.....	6.00	
34.....	14.16	
35.....	30.00	
36.....	5.78	$257.94
Balance cash in my hands...		$17.92

J. B. HARRIS, Grand Treasurer.

T. I. Comp. E. P. Breed, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the following Annual Report, which was, on motion, received and ordered to be spread upon the Minutes:

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence fraternally present the following Report:

During the year your Committee have received the proceedings of the following Grand Councils, viz.: Alabama, Connecticut, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, (two sessions) and New Jersey, (two sessions). That no more have been received is owing, perhaps, to several causes, all probably resulting from the unsettled state of the country. The financial powers of the Order have been crippled and the usual postal facilities have been restricted by Governmental authority. The intercourse with our Companions in other jurisdictions, by means of published proceedings, has in time past afforded us great pleasure, and we have received much valuable instruction; and to be deprived of so much pleasure and so much instruction adds to the many regrets all must feel in these times of unhappy excitement.

Let us here unite in the hope that peace may right speedily reign throughout the country, and the former relations of friendship and fraternity be renewed—when we shall be permitted to meet all members of our perfect Order in that vale where the lillies bloom, where no sounds of tumult or discord jars upon the ear. In entering upon the task now before them, your Committee would fail to express their first thoughts, did they not pay their tribute of high appreciation to the able and faithful manner in which like duties have been discharged by their predecessors, and proceed to the labor before them with a sense of great delicacy. Your Committee will endeavor to present to your consideration such points as they have deemed of general interest. If they disapprove, it will be their study to do so in a fraternal spirit. If they approve and concur, they will try to do so in such a manner that others may not take offense. Waiving further remarks, your Committee hasten to introduce you once more to the Companionship of those of our Order in other jurisdictions. * * * * * *

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented the following Report:

The Committee on Credentials and Returns report that the following Councils have made returns and paid dues:

Columbian, No. 1.....M. P. Jonathan Jarvis.
Brooklyn, No. 4.....T. I. E. J. Spink.
Adelphic, No. 7.....T. I. D. B. Howell.
Central City, No. 13..... .....T. I. S. M. Rust.
Bloss, No. 14.....T. I. Richard Bloss.
Bruce, No. 15....R. P. and Rev. C. H. Platt, Proxy.
Southern Tier, No. 16.....R. I .Isaac S. Marshall.
Buffalo, No. 17.....R. I. William Gould.
King Hiram, No. 18.R. P. & Rev. C. H. Platt, Proxy.
Doric, No. 19.....R. I. W. E. Lathrop.
Keystone, No. 20.....R. I. M. Pinner.

Your Committee would state that they find the returns very generally correct and in due form, with the single exception of King Hiram, No. 18, which has no signature or seal attached thereto. On motion, it was

Resolved, That the proxy given by King Hiram Council, be deemed valid, although not strictly complying with the requirements of the Constitution.

J. Shove,
J. B. Harris,
Jonathan Jarvis, } Committee on Credentials.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received:

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals respectfully report that there have been no matters of grievance or appeals referred to them, and congratulate the Grand Council on this evidence of harmony and good feeling prevailing throughout the subordinate Councils under this jurisdiction.

William Gould,
Charles E. Gillett,
S. T. Fisk, } Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

The Committee on Warrants presented the following Report:

To the M. P. Grand Council of the State of New York:

The Committee on Warrants respectfully report, that the only subject submitted to their consideration was that presented in the Address of the M. P. Grand Master, in regard to the disposition of the warrant constitutionally granted to the De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22. The condition imposed at the last Annual Assembly of the Grand Council was simply the requirement that the Council make the proper return, with the Grand Council dues, as enjoined by the Constitution. A sufficient extenuation of their neglect to comply with this condition is stated in the Grand Master's Address. In consideration of the fact that the neglect is thus excusable, we perceive a fraternal propriety in the course suggested by our M. P. Grand Master, and would recommend that he be requested to deliver the warrant already authorized, upon the presentation of proper returns and dues for both the last two years.

Signed:

Charles H. Platt,
D. B. Howell,
Richard Bloss,
} Committee on Warrants.

The Committee on Constitution offered the following Amendment, which was unanimously adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M.:

The Committee on Constitution would propose an amendment to Section 13, of Article I, of the Constitution, by inserting after the words, "under its jurisdiction," the words "unless the Grand Council shall otherwise order.".

E. J. Spink,
S. M. Rust,
} Committee on Constitution.

The Finance Committee presented the following Report, which was received, and the recommendation adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Finance Committee would respectfully report, that having examined the accounts of the Grand Secretary and Treasurer, they find them correct.

In relation to the indebtedness of this Grand Council for printing the Constitution and General Regulations and Proceedings of last year, which amounting to a much larger sum than can again be expected for many years, they would recommend, as a matter of economy, the Grand Recorder be directed not to publish the proceedings of the present year until after the session of our next Annual Grand Council, which will leave in the hands of the Grand Treasurer a considerable sum to be applied in extinguishing the debt, and which, in the opinion of your Committee, will be more satisfactory than a resort to assessment.

William Bloss,
S. M. Rust, } Committee on Finance.
D. B. Howell,

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the next Annual Assembly of the Grand Council be held on the first Tuesday of February, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M., in the City of Albany.

The Grand Council then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year. R. P. Comp. J. B. Harris and R. P. Richard Bloss were appointed Tellers.

M. P. N. O. Benjamin was elected....Grand Master.
R. P. C. H. Platt was elected...Dep. Grand Master.
T. I. Richard Bloss was elected.....Gr. Ill. Master.
R. P. Chas. E. Gillett was elected.G. P. C. of the W.
P. J. Shove was elected.....Grand Recorder.
P. J. B. Harris was elected....Grand Treasurer.

M. P. N. O. Benjamin, R. P. Charles H. Platt, and T. I. Richard Bloss were elected Trustees of the permanent fund.

The M. P. made the following appointments:

T. I. William E. Lathrop.....Grand C. of the G.
T. I. S. M. Rust.....Marshal.
Rev. Henry C. Vogell } .....Chaplains.
Rev. A. B. Beach }
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.....Lecturer.
T. I. E. J. Spink..... .....Steward.
A. G. Dart .....Sentinel.

The M. P. appointed as Committee on Foreign Correspondence:—E. P. Breed, J. Shove and John B. Harris.

On Unfinished Business:—C. E. Gillett, C. H. Platt and R. Bloss.

M. P. Jonathan Jarvis then installed the G. M.-elect, and the M. P. G. M. installed the remaining officers.

R. P. Comp. C. H. Platt offered the following Resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Recorder of each Council in this jurisdiction be requested to make a full and complete return to the Grand Council, previous to the last Wednesday in January next, of all the members of the Council, in the form mentioned in Article II, Section 13, of the Constitution.

On motion, Section 9, paragraph 4, of Article II, was amended by striking out the word "May," and inserting "January," as far as it can be at this Assembly.

On motion, the Grand Lecturer was excused from exemplifying the work at this Annual Session.

On motion, the salary of the Grand Recorder was fixed at fifty dollars, and the Grand Sentinel at seven dollars.

Sundry bills were presented and referred to the Finance Committee, to be paid, if found correct.

No further business appearing, the Grand Council was closed with prayer and in Ample Form.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

[It will be noticed that the Address of the Grand Master does not appear in the foregoing Minutes. After its delivery, it was taken by him for revision, and was never returned to the Grand Recorder.]

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Grand Council Room, Masonic Hall,
Albany, February 3rd, A. D. 1863, A. Dep. 2863.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York convened in Annual Assembly in the City of Albany, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the last Annual Assembly, on Tuesday, February 3rd, A. D. 1863, A. Dep. 2863. Present:

R. P. Rev. Charles H. Platt, D. G. M., as..Grand Master.
R. P. Richard Bloss.....Grand Illustrious Master.
R. P. Charles E. Gillett.....Grand P. C. of the Work.
R. P. M. Pinner as.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. W. E. Lathrop, ...Grand C. of the G.
R. P. S. M. Rust.....Grand Marshal.
P. D. A. Knapp.....Grand Steward.
P. A. G. Dart.....Grand Sentinel.
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.....Grand Lecturer.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Brooklyn, No. 4.....J. M. Weeks.
Adelphic, No. 7.....John Hoole.
Central City, No. 13.....S. M. Rust.
Bloss, No. 14.....Richard Bloss.
Bruce, No. 15.....C. H. Platt.
Southern Tier, No. 16.....J. D. Williams.
Buffalo, No. 17.....James McCredie.
Doric, No. 19.....W. E. Lathrop.
Keystone, No. 20.....M. Pinner.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form by the M. P. Grand Master. The reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Assembly was dispensed with. The following communication was read, and ordered to be entered on the Minutes.

Headquarters, Gen. Grover's Division,
Gen. Bank's Expedition,
Baton Rouge, La, Dec. 29th, 1862.

Companions of the Grand Council:—

My connection with the Army of the Southwest renders it impossible for me to meet with you at your Annual Assembly, but you may rest assured that my heart, if at that time it beats at all,

will pulsate in unison with yours. I have been so long associated with you at your Annual Assemblies that it seems unnatural that I should be absent, but "necessity knows no law."

For many courtesies that I have received at your hands, during the years I have been officially connected with you, accept my grateful acknowledgments, and allow me to wish yourselves and the Grand Council every prosperity. Receive this from one whose official connection with your Grand Body has ceased, and one who, in the vicissitudes of a soldier's life, may never meet with any of you again in this world, but trusts to see you all in the Grand Council above, where there is no more parting. Officially, I have done nothing since the last Annual Assembly, having joined the army immediately after that time. God bless you all; farewell.

N. O. BENJAMIN, Grand Master.

The Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

On Warrants and Dispensations:—Comp. John Hoole, Comp. J. McCredie, and Comp. W. E. Lathrop.

On Foreign Correspondence:—Comp. S. H. Stone, Comp. S. T. Fisk, and Comp. J. M. Weeks.

On Constitution and By-Laws:—Comp. M. Pinner, Comp. S. M. Rust and Comp. Williams.

On Grievances and Appeals:—Comp. Richard Bloss, Comp. C. H. Gillett, and Comp. W. E. Lathrop.

On Unfinished Business:—Comp. S. M. Rust, Comp. M. Pinner, and Comp. S. H. Stone.

On Credentials:—Comp. S. M. Rust, Comp. M. Pinner and Comp. J. McCredie.

The Grand Recorder presented the following Annual Report, which was received, and referred to the Finance Committee:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Recorder would present the following Annual Report: June 2d, 1862. Receipts.

From	Columbian Council, No. 1	$7.25
"	Brooklyn Council, No. 4	11.12
"	Adelphic Council, No. 7	40.12
"	Central City Council, No. 13	8.87
"	Bloss Council, No. 14	9.88
"	Bruce Council, No. 15	10.50
"	Southern Tier Council, No. 16	12.62
"	Buffalo Council, No. 17	8.81
"	King Hiram Council, No. 18	3.75
"	Doric Council, No. 19	9.00
"	Keystone Council, No. 20	3.50
		$125.42
June 5.	Seal on Certificate	.50
June 23.	Dispensation to King Hiram, No. 18,	.50
Dec. 13.	Dispensation to Bruce, No. 15	.50
		$126.92

All of which has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, and his receipt taken therefor.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

Albany, February 3rd, 1863.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following Annual Report, which was received, and referred to the Finance Committee:

To the M. P Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Treasurer would present the following as his Annual Report:

June 2d, 1862.	Balance cash on hand as per last report.....	$17.92
June 2d, 1862.	Received from Grand Recorder	125.42
Feb. 2d, 1863.	Received from Grand Recorder	1.50
		$144.84

Paid the following Warrants:

No. 37	.....	$7.00	
No. 38	.....	$6.00	
No. 39.	On account of.....	50.00	
No. 40.	On account of.....	50.00	
No. 41.	On account of.....	25.00	$138.00

Balance of cash in my hands this date..... $6.84

J. B. HARRIS, Grand Treasurer.

New York, February 3rd, 1863.

The Committee on Credentials presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received:

The Committee on Credentials would respectfully report, that the following persons have presented their credentials, and are entitled to seats in this Grand Body:

Pennell, No. 2.....———
Adelphic, No. 7.....John Hoole.
Central City, No. 13.....Stiles M. Rust.
Bloss, No. 14.....Richard Bloss.
Bruce, No. 15.....C. H. Platt, Proxy.
Southern Tier, No. 16.....J. D. Williams.
Buffalo, No. 17.....James McCredie.
Doric, No. 19.....W. E. Lathrop.
Keystone, No. 20.....M. Pinner.

S. M. Rust, M. Pinner, J. McCredie, } Committee.

On motion, the compensation of the Grand Recorder was fixed at fifteen dollars. On motion, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the balance remaining, after paying all debts, be paid towards liquidating Warrant No. 39.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

M. P. Charles H. Platt.....Grand Master.
R. P. Richard Bloss.....Dep. Grand Master.
P. Charles E. Gillett.....Grand Ill. Master.
P. John Hoole.....G. P. C. of the W.
P. Josiah Shove.....G. Recorder.
P. J. B. Harris.....G. Treasurer.

The Grand Master appointed

R. P. William E. Lathrop.....G. C. of G.
R. P. Stiles M. Rust.....G. Marshal.
P. Charles Craig.....G. Steward.
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.....G. Lecturer.
C. H. Platt, Richard Bloss, C. E. Gillett, } .....Trustees.
Rev. H. C. Vogell, Rev. A. P. Burch, Rev. John N. Parker, Rev. James Freeman, } ...Grand Chaplains.

R. P. S. H. Stone duly installed the elected and appointed officers.

The Grand Marshal then proclaimed the installation of the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in Ample Form.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council be held in the City of Albany, on the first Tuesday in February next, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M.

On motion, two dollars was appropriated to Comp. Crosbie for his attendance.

The Grand Master appointed R. P. John Hoole, T. I. J. M. Weeks, T. I. D. B. Howell, Finance Committee.

No further business appearing, the Grand Council was closed with prayer, and in Ample Form.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

GRAND COUNCIL—ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Grand Council Room, Masonic Hall, Albany.

Feb. 2d, 1864, A. Dep. 2864.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York convened in Annual Assembly, in the City of Albany, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the last Annual Assembly, on Tuesday, February 2d, A. D. 1864, A. Dep. 2864. Present:

M. P. Charles H. Platt.....Grand Master.
R. P. Bradley Parker.....Grand Illustrious Master.
R. P. John Hoole.....Grand P. C. of the Work.
William B. Shove as.....Grand Recorder.
Lorenzo Lombard as.....Grand C. of the G.
R. P. George H. Raymond.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.....Grand Lecturer.
P. L. G. Dart.....Grand Sentinel.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Columbian, No, 1,
Brooklyn, No. 4,
Adelphic, No. 7,
Eureka, No. 8,
Central City, No. 13,
Bloss, No. 14,
Bruce, No. 15,
Southern Tier, No. 16,
Buffalo, No. 17,
King Hiram, No. 18,
Doric, No. 19,
Keystone, No. 20,
De Witt Clinton, No. 22.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form by the M. P. Grand Master.

On motion, the Committee on Credentials of last year was continued, and power given to sit during the session.

On motion, the reading of the minutes of the last Annual Assembly was dispensed with.

The M. P. Grand Master then presented his Annual Address, which was, on motion, ordered to be spread at length upon the minutes, and referred to a Committee of three, consisting of Comps. Safford, Teson, and Watson, to apportion the various subjects therein treated of to appropriate Committees.

THE ADDRESS.

Companions, Members of the Grand Council:

The honored position which your favor had assigned me, demands now from me a review of the important events affecting Cryptic Masonry in our jurisdiction, during the period of my responsibility as your chief officer.

The actual labor required in the discharge of this trust does not appear in the present results. But I am persuaded that foundations have been laid on which our manifold arches will yet be reared to resound with the echo of many a well-tempered trowel. Much of the frustration that disappoints our efforts is occasioned by the commotions of society, attending our fearful condition of war.

Brethren are arrayed against each other in the strife of arms, and they that exchanged the courtesies of Cryptic fellowship contend now in deadly rage.

Under this condition of military necessity, our correspondence has been discontinued. The interchange of sentimnet and reflection from one to the other, of each year's additional light, have yielded to silence and to a mournful brooding within our own vaults over the calamity that separates brethren, suspends the offices of mutual respect, shrouds the names of those whom we had ever mentioned with honor, reduces our fellowship to the limits of a section, instead of carrying it joyously and equally over the whole land, and mocks us with grim uncertainties, instead of assuring us that the next moon or the next solstice shall find us clasped in the embrace of re-united friends. When that day of restoration shall come, how will that first Masonic sound, which thrills with the sound of the first footfall upon the ground floor of the Temple; how will that earliest lesson of brotherhood startle glad echoes from the middle to the Holy of Holies, and from the vault of the finished Temple to the arches, where the select and faithful gather: "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

The malign influences of our public agitations have not been confined to our relations with other Grand Councils. We have encountered its detriment in all our efforts at home. As the good old Leighton said, "In times of peace we are enlarged and build wider and wider, but when the conflict comes, we are straitened for room and build upward." The effect of the unsettled and restless state of affairs has been to cripple our energies, to discourage progress, to baffle projects of enlargement, and to threaten disbandment, where

the heart of zeal and hope was not alive. As the year has advanced, we have gradually rallied from our universal feeling of depression. Those that crept back from exertion into some complacent theory, that these Cryptic degrees might just as properly be consigned to the custody of Capitular Masonry have received better light, have conversed with the ancient standards of the Craft, have felt the necessity of falling back upon landmarks, and have yielded gracefully and manfully to the confession, that Cryptic knowledge implies Cryptic authority; that the privileges of the Select are not inherently those of the Royal Arch, and that the preservation of these traditions has been due to the jealousy with which Counciliar Masonry has preserved its trust and guarded it against impertinent curiosity.

As we have thus recovered from the blow inflicted by civil war, a new energy has been infused into our Subordinate Councils. Numbers are soliciting the privileges of our light. Magnanimous Sir Knights, that had been dubbed without admission to our Councils, have discovered that there was a link wanting in their chain of knowledge, and that link Councils must supply. The augury of growth and firmness appears in many of our Councils. The dawn of a better era is surely glowing in our sky. The languid are reviving; the newer Councils are threatening to outstrip those that have grown supine, and from venerable Columbian to valiant Bruce, the greeting goes, while the palms of victory vibrate between the sturdy Central City, suited by its very location for preservation, and the ambitious De Witt Clinton aspiring to vie with its honored neighbor in Troy.

You may not perceive the evidences here of this approaching success, but I hear the pibroch in the distance, and I tell you that the reinforcement comes, if we but make ourselves worthy of it. It only remains for us to substitute a brave, efficient, earnest, capable Master for the inexperience and inactivity that has faltered through the year, doing but little, yet that its best, and to surround your leading representatives with auxiliaries so placed and so qualified that they can exert themselves and can help, by their exertions; and the grand result for which others have labored and others have hoped, will be our enjoyment. During the past year the organization at Albany has proceeded with its labors, and under a warrant as De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22, has assumed an attitude that gives promise of vigor in this heart of our Commonwealth. Initiatory measures have been taken at various points in this State for the establishment of new Councils, but none have matured into Dispensations. Unless some serious loss should befall us, another year will witness the ripening of several of these projects.

The question much discussed among us for several years, is that respecting the most feasible plan for locating the place and time of our Annual Assembly.

The Companions will observe that we are, by our Constitution, committed to no other policy on the subject but this, that once within the Cryptic year, those authorized to manage our Cryptic interests will assemble, consult, elect, appoint and co-operate for the best interests of the Subordinate Councils.

The dictate of our best judgment is all our policy. But in that is now included the fortune of the Grand Council. We must so order on this subject, that our decision shall commend itself as originating in no personal preferences, but as solely concerned in rendering the Annual Assembly most effective, and securing to our Grand Officers the best opportunity for advancing their work. My own private opinion has been, that we needed to bring the Grand Council nearer to its remote members, rather than to force certain Western portions to traverse great distances. I have believed that we had reached a degree of extension which would, at least for one or two years, have rendered it profitable for us, like the Grand Commandery, to migrate and to privilege the various sections of our jurisdiction.

But I have never pressed, and would scarcely now obtrude my private views. Whatever our best discretion shall decide will have my indorsement, and if we all act generously and unselfishly, the conclusion of the majority ought to arouse no remonstrance. My Companions, it is a most impressive fact, that almost the only tones which we can hear sounding throughout the Cryptic year are those of funeral woe. Much of the zeal and animation which had pervaded our Annual Assemblies in later years was derived from the personal presence, with all their stores of Masonic learning and zeal, with all their attractions of cultivation and amenity of two Companions whose names now stand conspicuous upon our record of the dead, the late M. P. Grand Master Benjamin, and his honored predecessor, the intelligent and accomplished Sommers. *Par nobile fratrum.* Sorrow vibrates in the voice that proclaims them dead. Early in the march of life, with many of its possible glories unattained, but with large measures of its achievement in promise, they have fallen. The genius of Masonry weaves chaplets to their memory, and drops the friendly tear. At our last Annual Assembly the absence of our M. P. Grand Master was an obstruction to our proceedings, which we scarcely felt competent to surmount. His letter of regret, conveyed to us, counsels that were valuable, but under the fear that the fortunes of war would not permit him to exercise his functions, we were contrained to place him among those Past Grand Officers who have wielded the sceptre most il-

lustriously and surrendered it to others. Friends watched his career as an officer in our volunteer army, engaged in the critical enterprises along the lower Mississippi. They found him resolute and daring. They were greeted with the report that he honored his name, and bore the reputation of a diligent officer, a heroic soldier, a noble gentleman and a magnanimous friend. It was not unexpected then, to hear that he was at all times ready for peril, as he was prompt in duty. But it was a shock that sent the tremors of distress through his associates in their Cryptic toils, when the tidings came of that deadly assault at Port Hudson, on the second Sunday in June, and that the fatal bullet there pierced his brain, and silenced the manly voice, which waits for the greater than Solomon to speak from the glories of the Perfect Arch, "Young man, I say unto thee, arise." Life was not extinct until the afternoon of the fifteenth, but unconsciousness had prevailed from the hour of his wound on the preceding day. He is truly described by our R. P. Grand Recorder as, "the one to whom the Cryptic Degrees owe so much of the vitality of late years instilled into them." My Companions, this Grand Council recognizes a debt of gratitude to him; various Masonic Bodies have felt the influence of his energy. There was something of majestic power in his vigor of effort; there was an instinctive discretion in the man, and in execution there was a power of will which ordinary difficulties could not paralyze. His example, in this respect, commands our honor and our emulation. It was intended to transport his remains to South Egremont, Berkshire County, Mass., his native place, for interment, with full Masonic honors, but I am not advised that this purpose has yet been accomplished.

At the time of our first grief at this irreparable loss, we were also agitated with reports of imminent danger that our R. P. Deputy Grand Master, Dr. Richard Bloss, would be taken from us. Our forebodings were realized on Sunday, the 13th of September. It is stated that the disease which caused his death was contracted some twenty-three years ago, while he was engaged in making a post-mortem examination, when he accidently received into his system the fatal virus. He narrowly escaped death at the time, and never recovered from the effects of the poison. His early life, prior to this accident, had been spent in Vermont, but for the last quarter of a century his name was honored among the most respected and intelligent citizens of Troy. Under his auspices, Lodge, Chapter and Commandery had flourished, and from his zeal, one of our most extensive Councils derived its origin, and such was his invulnerable character, that every objection to the precedent was waived, in complimenting him and honoring the Council, with the designation of its living Founder and Head. It remains as a beautiful monument to his memory, and we trust that

his virtues may survive there, with his name, rendering credit to the institution of Masonry, and transmitting to generations yet to come, the record of one whose praise is in all our Masonic Bodies. The transparent candor, the genuine benevolence, the unblemished piety, the meek reverence, the judicious caution, the unwearied zeal, the tongue of kindness and the ear of patience—all these were his—a complex of character that moved among men like healing virtue, and which vanishes from us like the burial of blessings. Vanishes, did I say? Nay, it shall survive while Cryptic memories are just, or Cryptic models are to be depicted.

Many of you will recall the spare figure that for years has graced our Grand Councils, carrying on its front eyes that bespoke intelligence, showing in every gesture a cultivated gentleman, and in its utterances always disclosing an intellect well furnished, that acted under the promptings of a warm and generous heart. That form has been consigned to its kindred dust. It bore the honors of our Grand Mastership with a courtesy not to be forgotten. It was clad within the last year with the regalia of a R. W. Deputy Grand Master in our Grand Lodge. On the 23rd of November last he yielded his soul to the God who gave it, and all Masonry joined with us in lamenting the gifted Sommers. The immortality within brooked not the delays of time, but hurried through the delicate frame-work that would imprison it, to the regions of a greater light.

Mournfully do we rehearse these shrouded names—Benjamin, Bloss, Sommers. Let it be our pleasure to prove that their labor was not misapplied—that they planted not their hopes on blank and barren ingratitude.

During the term of my office I have been privileged with visiting and presiding in Bruce Council, at Lockport; Central City, at Syracuse, and King Hiram Council, at Auburn. Our R. P. Grand Illustrious Master has devoted most of his attention to Southern Tier Council, at Elmira. He has transmitted a communication full of cordial feeling, which I commend to your consideration.

Our R. P. G. P. Conductor of the Work has kept under his special observation the Councils laboring in New York and vicinity. His report indicates that Adelphic Council, though blighted by two of the sad fates we have recalled, still flourishes and reaches after the palm of superior merit; that Brooklyn Council thrives despite the inroads of public commotion, and that venerable Columbian clings with unflinching tenacity to the honor which age has legitimately conferred. Indulge me, Companions, in directing attention to one phase of our duties which ought not to be dismissed from our minds. Masonry is intrinsically historical. The

value of the whole system—from the untutored rudiments of Apprenticeship to the Cryptic crown of the Ancient Craft; from the stone first laid at the northeast corner to the winged glories of the 33rd degree—the value of the whole is, that it contains and expresses and preserves history. Our fidelity then, as Masons, is involved in the scrupulous care with which we collect and deposit and shelter from oblivion the flitting items of Masonic history.

You know Cicero's observation, "That to be ignorant of what happened before we ourselves came into the world, is to be always children." You know that the manly maturity is what we honor, with the traditional history treasured by the Craft. Let us then, give it our heed and our care, that the archives of our Grand Council in no year fail to receive the full deposit of all those minute statements which our Cryptic history gleans in every portion of the State. Let our Subordinate Councils give fullness and precision to their records, and a frequent compilation of personal memories in their archives, as the least homage we can render to the Ancient Grand Masters, whose forethought for future generations has rescued the very illuminations of Heaven from the darkness that steals upon the highest brilliancies of man. What have been all the valuable sources of history to man, but the efforts of the profane to imitate this intrinsic virtue of the Craft? What an enigma would Babylon have always remained, had not Berosus, the priest of Bel, transcribed those public archives. Egyptian life would have been no more to us than a broken shaft and a mummy, had not Thouth recorded hieroglyphics upon tomb and pillar, and Manethos collected his three books of Egyptian Dynasty from sacred characters. And who would have known the chain that links European history with Phoenician adventure, had not Sanchoniathon digested a connected narrative out of the annals of cities and out of the books kept in the Temple, which were unrolled to his eye by Jerom Baal, priest of the God Jao. Roman history brings to us its pregnant examples through the annals maximi which the Pontifix prepared every year, recording every public act. All the erudition of our age recognizes this sacred duty; and civilized people now claim the name only as they are rescuers of history, moved to make it for generations, because they have felt the power of it as derived from the past. Let us see that in noble, manly, zealous fulfillment of our part as Masons, we make elements of history in our conduct, and transmit the records of our worthy example, and of examples that have inspired us to them, that shall walk through the arches of living humanity, when we are "mouldering neath the silent urn."

Comp. S. H. Stone was duly installed as Ill. P. C. of Work in Central City Council, No. 13.

The Grand Recorder presented the following Annual Report, which was received, and referred to the Finance Committee:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Receipts of the last Annual Assembly:

Dues from Columbian Council, No. 1		$4.87
Dues from Brooklyn Council, No. 4		8.00
Dues from Adelphic Council, No. 7		25.71
Dues from Eureka Council, No. 8		6.15
Dues from Central City Council, No. 13		5.34
Dues from Bloss Council, No. 14		7.46
Dues from Bruce Council, No. 15		8.64
Dues from Southern Tier Council, No. 16		6.66
Dues from Buffalo Council, No. 17		7.32
Dues from Doric Council, No. 19		5.50
Dues from Keystone Council, No. 20		3.43
Dues from De Witt Clinton Cl., No. 22	$5.00	
Balance on Warrant " " "	10.00	
		15.00
Nine seals affixed to certificates		4.50
Dispensation to elect officers in No. 13		.50
Dispensation to elect officers in No. 15		.50
		$109.58

All of which has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

New York, February 1st, 1864.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following Annual Report, which was received, and referred to the Finance Committee:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Treasurer offers the following Annual Report:

Balance cash on hand as per last report... ..		$6.84
Received from Grand Recorder.....		109.58
		$116.42
Paid on account of Warrant No. 39..$75.00		
Paid Warrant No. 42.....	2.00	
Paid Warrant No. 43..... ..	15.00	
		92.00
Balance cash on hand..		$24.42

Balance due on Warrant No. 39 is $113.21.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. B. HARRIS, Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

On Grievances:—M. M. Wood, L. Lombard, B. Parker.

On Constitutions and By-Laws:—James McCredie, C. W. Watson, D. F. Day.

On Credentials:—S. H. Stone, L. Lombard, S. T. Fisk.

On Warrants:—Geo. H. Raymond, John Hoole, Charles Teson.

The Committee to whom was referred the Grand Master's Address presented the following report, which was received and adopted, and the Committee discharged.

The Committee to whom was referred the M. P. Grand Master's Address would beg leave to report, that a blank page be left for each Grand Officer deceased, and that suitable resolutions be adopted by this Grand Body relative to the death of our Illustrious Companions, and a copy thereof sent to the families of the deceased. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. S. Safford, }
Chas. Teson, } Committee.

A communication was received from Charles E. Gillett, Grand Ill. Master, which was read and ordered to be placed on file.

The Committee on Unfinished Business reported that there was none remaining over from the last Annual Assembly.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence stated that they had no report to make at this Assembly. On motion, it was

Resolved, That the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council be held in the City of Albany, on the first Tuesday in February next, at 7:30 o'clock, P. M.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Credentials and Returns would report, that they have examined the returns of the various Councils, and find them correct, and that the following Representatives are entitled to seats in this Grand Council, together with the Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers:

Columbian, No. 1.....George H. Raymond.
Eureka, No. 8.....———
Central City, No. 13.....Seymour H. Stone.
Bloss, No. 14.....Charles Teson.
Bruce, No. 15.....Charles H. Platt.
Southern Tier, No. 16.....J. D. Williams.
Buffalo, No. 17.....James McCredie.
King Hiram, No. 18.....L. Lombard.
Doric, No. 19.....C. W. Watson.
Keystone, No. 20..... .....D. F. Day.
Adelphic, No. 7.....J. S. Safford.

James McCredie,
George H. Raymond, } Committee
Robert Bell,

The hour for the election of officers having arrived, the M. P. appointed Comps. Bell and Seaver as Tellers, and the following officers were elected:

M. P. Charles H. Platt... .....Grand Master.
R. P. John Hoole .....Dep. Grand Master.
R. P. James McCredie .....Grand Ill. Master.
R. P. John D. Williams.....Grand P. C. of W.
R. P. Josiah Shove .....Grand Recorder.
R. P. J. B. Harris .....Grand Treasurer.
David F. Day, J. S. Safford, Chas. H. Platt, ...Trustees.

R. P. Companion Bradley Parker duly installed the Grand Master-elect and the Grand Master then installed the remaining officers.

The Grand Master announced the following appointments:

George H. Raymond.....Grand C. of G.
C. W. Snow.....Grand Marshal.
C. W. Watson.....Grand Steward.
L. G. Dart.....Grand Sentinel.
Comps. Vogel, Beach, Parker and Freeman, Grand Chaplains.

And the above Companions were duly installed by the Grand Master.

The Grand Marshal then proclaimed the installation of the officers of the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in Ample Form.

The following Standing Committees were announced by the Grand Master:

On Foreign Correspondence:—Charles Craig, J. D. Williams, P. P. Murphy.

On Unfinished Business:—Bradley Parker, F. Chamberlain, S. H. Stone.

On Finance:—John Hoole, James McCredie, J. Shove.

On motion, the salary of the Grand Recorder was for the past year fixed at $25.00, and the Grand Sentinel at $2.00.

On motion, it was voted that the funds in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, not otherwise appropriated, be paid on account of Warrant No. 39.

The Finance Committee reported, that they had examined the accounts and vouchers of the Recorder and Treasurer, and found them correct.

On motion, the Grand Master and Grand Recorder were appointed a Committee to draft suitable resolutions relative to the decease of P. G. Officers, and furnish certified copies to the families of the deceased.

The following Committees were announced:

On Grievances:—M. M. Wood, L. Lombard, B. Parker.

On Constitution and By-Laws:—James McCredie, C. W. Watson, D. F. Day.

On Credentials:—S. H. Stone, L. Lombard, S. T. Fisk.

On Warrants:—Geo. H. Raymond, John Hoole, Charles Teson.

No further business appearing, the Minutes were read and approved, and the Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

JOSIAH SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Grand Council Room,

Albany, Tuesday, Feb. 7th, A. D. 1865, A. D. 2865.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York convened in Annual Assembly, in the City of Albany, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the last Annual Assembly, on Tuesday, February 7, A. D. 1865, A. Dep. 2865. Present:

M. P. Charles H. Platt.....Grand Master.
R. P. John Hoole.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. James McCredie.....Grand Illustrious Master.
R. P. J. D. Williams.....Grand P. C. of the Work.
R. P. J. Shove.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. G. H. Raymond.....Grand C. of the G.
R. P. C. H. Snow.....Grand Marshal.
P. C. W. Watson.... .....Grand Steward.
P. Amasa J. Fuller.....Grand Sentinel.
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.....Grand Lecturer.
R. P. Augustus Willard.....Past Dep. Gr. Master.
R. P. Seymour H. Stone.....Past Dep. Gr. Master.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Columbian, No. 1,	Bruce, No. 15,
Brooklyn, No. 4,	Southern Tier, No. 16,
Adelphic, No. 7,	Buffalo, No. 17,
Eureka, No. 8,	King Hiram, No. 18,
Central City, No. 13,	Keystone, No. 20,
Bloss, No. 14,	DeWitt Clinton, No. 22.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form by the M. P. Grand Master.

On motion of R. P. Comp. Josiah Shove, it was

Resolved, That all Companion Select Masters in good standing, in the Order be invited to take seats as visitors in this Grand Council.

The M. P. Grand Master then read his Annual Address, which was, on motion of R. P. Comp. Stone, ordered to be spread at length upon the Minutes, and referred to a Committee of three, to apportion the various subjects therein treated of to appropriate Committees.

THE ADDRESS.

Companions in the Cryptic Light:

The revolving year summons us again to reminiscence, and to the careful discharge of responsible duties. We assemble in a profound sense of our dependence upon that Wisdom and Supreme Power which devises in secret chambers the purpose of goodness, and treasures among its select intimates the mysteries of celestial light. The principle of Masonic transmission is the resemblance and the product of that Divine Wisdom. We imitate and we obey the Sovereign Father of the Universe, while we practice among all men the virtues He favors, and hold in perpetual guardianship the traditions of knowledge and truth.

To promote these objects is the purpose of our assemblage. We join in annual retrospect. We renew the pledges of fraternity. We recognize our stewardship as no achievement of a groveling or sordid personal ambition, but as the performance of a sacred trust. In the spirit of devotion to a lofty enterprise we engage in these deliberations. Feeling that humanity needs these institutions, and that everlasting truth asks for the shelter of our symbolic arches, we gratefully recall the benefits of the year that closes its account, and thoughtfully ponder our plans for future fidelity and usefulness. No justly balanced mind can entertain without emotion the facts of convulsion and discord, which stare upon us from the furious features of our shattered and frenzied country. Battles that bristle with grim horror, and revolution that wrenches the virtues of community, and agitations that dislocate the relations of brotherhood—these are the portentous evils which are infesting the society where our actions lie, and are throwing their baleful shadow even over our sequestered retreats. Grand Councils of jurisdiction like our own, in whose fellowship we found in former years the source of refreshment, and with whose brilliant examples of ardent zeal we rekindled our own flickering energies, are exscinded from the association of fraternal concord, and silenced to us as if separated by a wall of death. The demands of war snatch from our assemblies many a Companion who sounded the silver trumpet or guarded well his post, or wrought his regular hours in the kind utilities of social peace. Conscription tasks the energies or public emergencies engross the attention of those who would in other times be wielding the trowel of unity and multiplying our depositories of light, and our laboratories for the chief skill of the ancient Craft. It is an occasion of congratulation, that amid all these discouragements and these distracting events, and these abrupt upliftings of repeated surprises to impede our work, the subordinate Councils of this jurisdiction maintain themselves

so steadfastly, strengthen in spite of difficulties, recover from reverses, and with fissiparous vitality convert fragments into organized Bodies.

As exemplifications of this prosperity in Cryptic Masonry, I would refer to the returns of several of our larger Councils. They exhibit not only the addition of numbers well comparing with other and more peaceful years, but also the assimilation of materials that have been illustrious in the lower degrees of the Craft, and will emulate the attainments of the brightest among the select and chosen few.

The attention of your R. P. Deputy Grand Master has been directed to the reviving and vigorous establishment of Pennell Council, No. 2. His zeal and discretion have been successful. With the co-operation of worthy Companions, the labors of that Council have been resumed. It aspires to its position in the van of our column. But financial embarrassment cripples its efforts. Heavy obligations cumber its treasury. In this condition of ambition for the future, but of arrears hampering its progress, it appeals to the indulgence of this Grand Body, and undertakes to be the custodian of its own high honor hereafter, if we will generously overlook the delinquencies of its prostrate years, and remit the dues which accrued during those days of inactivity and decline. I commend the subject to the liberal action of this Grand Council.

On the 23d day of February last, I granted a Dispensation to Th. Ill. Corydon Wheat, Master; R. Ill. Willard N. Smith, Deputy Master; Ill. Henry W. McGonegal, Principal Conductor of W., and Companions Wm. F. Eddington, Ami Whitney, Jr., John Shook, Wm. E. Hayes, Wm. B. Dunning and David P. Dey, to hold a Council in the Village of Geneva, County of Ontario, and State of New York, by the name of Ontario Council.

On the 14th day of January, A. Dep. 2865, I granted a Dispensation to Th. Ill. Charles M. Brown, Master; R. Ill. Geo. W. Seymour, Deputy Master; Ill. Chauncey Marvin, Principal Conductor of W.; and Companions Clinton F. Paige, H. Clay Preston, Solon Stocking, J. M. Reid, A. W. Tyler, H. S. Sloan, Joseph B. Chaffee and Wm. M. Crossby, to form and hold a Council in Binghampton, Broome County, N. Y., by the name of Binghampton Council.

I trust that both these Councils will exhibit such proficiency and promise as to justify the rendering to them the maturer power of Warrant of Constiution from this Grand Council.

During the year I have presided and installed officers in Central City Council, No. 13, and in Bruce Council, No. 15. I have also visited and presided in Ontario Council, U. D., and Binghampton Council, U. D.

I have proposed visitations at several other Councils, but have not been able to conclude appointments that would serve the convenience of those concerned. The Councils in the vicinity of New York, I have committed to the special attention of R. P. Comp. Hoole, who has faithfully discharged his duties by visitation and by report to us. Southern Tier Council, No. 16, I have especially commended to the oversight of R. P. Comp. Williams, who is residing in Elmira. He reports the exercise of consummate zeal and circumspection in the guardianship of Cryptic Light within that Council.

Under the auspices of faithful officers it has prospered, and with our R. P. Comp. now exercising the Master's function, its future will not be dimmed.

Buffalo Council, No. 17, and Keystone, No. 20, have received the benefit of R. P. Comp. McCredie's personal presence. He has carefully scrutinized their work, and cheers us with the report of flattering prospects for those important branches of our jurisdiction.

Efforts have been made by some worthy Companions to accomplish the organization of a new Council in the City of Oswego. The plans were matured too late to anticipate this Annual Assembly. But the project is still cherished by our R. P. Grand Chaplain, the Rev. Dr. Beach and Comp. A. D. Brigham. It has my cordial endorsement, and is commended to the immediate consideration of my successor in these grand powers.

There has been no authoritative representation to me that any of our subordinate Councils have been delinquent in returns to the Grand Council; but I suspect that our thoughts ought, in justice, be directed to this subject. I would recommend the submitting to a Committee the facts in this respect as they appear upon the Records of the Grand Council, and as confronted with Art. I, Sec. 19. Art. II, Sec. 4, of our Constitutions. Forfeiture of Warrant is not incurred without charges in Grand Council, but the duty of preferring charges is nowhere devolved, and is not likely to be gratuitously assumed, unless under great aggravations. The question of pubication should at this time receive our consideration. Our proceedings have not been printed since 1861. It may be advisable to place now in print the Record of our transactions during the interim, and to append such tabulated statements as our Grand Recorder may find it practicable to prepare.

And now, Companions, to your indulgent consideration, do I present this suggestion of topics connected with my exercise of high functions, and to your wise judgments do I commend the devising of measures for the prosecution of our important work. Time may not spare us all, to re-unite in these brotherly offices when the seasons again have gone their round. One that was eminent in the

history of Masonic championship for the past half century, venerable alike in years and in the chastened graces of an enviable character, tracked the dark way into the serenities of eternity soon after we dispersed from the harmonious and pleasant interview of our last Assembly. In a distant State he passed from the labors of the patient to the rest of the beloved; but within our jurisdiction, where the ruffled Cayuga whispers a gentle requiem, slumbers till raised again, the dust of the unforgotten, faithful man, Salem Town. Nearer to our own immediate fellowship of official function, and nearer to this scene of his Masonic labors, was that lamented companion, our late Puissant Grand Sentinel, the cheerful, the fervent, the magnetic, the unswerving, the ever faithful, the pure hearted, and the brotherly-minded associate in the labors of De Witt Clinton Council, Lyman G. Dart.

On the 11th of January just past, he was summoned to the presence of the Most High. Deprived thus, on the eve of our Annual Assembly, of his valuable services, I proceeded to supply the melancholy void by appointing Puissant Comp. Amasa Fuller, Grand Sentinel. Let the event not fail to sound in the chamber of our reflections the admonition that echoes through every arch of wisdom, to guard with sleepless vigilance the sanctuary of our immortality. It may be you, it may be I, that shall be mentioned with a tribute of a friendly tear, when another voice rehearses the history of another year. Let it only be with the eulogy sighed from the breast of candor, that fervency and zeal illuminated and beautified a character, whose memory Masonry honors, and humanity admires.

The M. P. appointed as Committee on Address, R. P. Seymour H. Stone, Ill. R. P. Barnard, and R. Ill. G. W. Harwood.

The M. P. also appointed the following Standing Committtees:

On Credentials and Returns:—R. P. Seymour H. Stone, R. Ill. Uriah Woodruff and R. P Sewall T. Fisk.

On Warrants:—R. Ill. Daniel Wolff, R. P. John Hoole and T. I. M. W. Campbell.

On Constitutions and By-Laws:—Ill. Henry E. Gilbert, T. Ill. C. W. Watson and R. I. David F. Day.

On Grievances:—R. P. Aug. Willard, Ill. James W. Morange and Ill. H. W. McGonegal.

On Finance:—R. P. John Hoole, T. Ill. James McCredie and R. P. Josiah Shove.

The Grand Recorder presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and referred to the Finance Committee:

New York, February 1st, 1865.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Recorder presents the following as his Annual Report:

RECEIPTS OF LAST ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Dues from Columbian Council, No. 1	$10.00
Dues from Adelphic Council, No. 7	48.90
Dues from Eureka Council, No. 8	5.00
Dues from Central City, No. 13	8.00
Dues from Bloss Council, No. 14	32.88
Dues from Bruce Council, No. 15	12.62
Dues from Southern Tier Council, No. 16	16.09
Dues from Buffalo Council, No. 17	8.50
Dues from King Hiram Council, No. 18	16.56
Dues from Doric Council, No. 19	9.75
Dues from Keystone Council, No. 20	4.41
Dues from De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22	19.00
	$191.71

1865.—Jan. 3.	Dispensation Ontario Council	20.00
Jan. 12.	Dispensation to elect officers Bruce C., No. 15	.50
Jan. 18.	Dispensation to Binghamton Council	20.00
	Nine Seals affixed to certificates	4.50
	Total Receipts	$236.71

All of which has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and referred to the Finance Committee:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Treasurer offers the following as his Annual Report:

Balance cash in my hands as per last report...		$24.42
Received from Grand Recorder during the year..		236.71
		$261.13
Paid balance due on Warrant, No. 39.	$113.21	
Paid Warrant, No 44.....	2.00	
Paid Warrant, No. 45.....	25.00	
Paid Recorder for disbursements for postage and express charges, etc...	12.67	152.88
Balance cash in my hands.....		$108.25

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. B. HARRIS, Grand Treasurer.

New York, February 1st, 1865.

The Committee to whom was referred the Address of the M. P. Grand Master, presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, and the recommendations therein contained were adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

The Committee to whom was referred the Annual Address of the M. P. Grand Master, respectfully report, that they have examined the same, and would recommend the reference of so much of the address as refers to delinquencies in returns to this Grand Council to the Committee on Finance. Also the subject of remitting the dues of Pennell Council, No. 2, to the same Committee. The question of publishing the proceedings of this Grand Council since 1861, having been made the subject of special mention and resolution by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and their suggestions and resolutions being in accordance with the sentiments on that subject expressed by the Grand Master in his address, your Committee would

recommend that the subject be left with that Committee, and unite with them in asking the passage of the resolutions presented by them.

Respectfully submitted,

S. H. Stone,
R. P. Barnard,
G. W. Harwood.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and the resolutions appended thereto were referred to the Finance Committee:

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to respectfully report:

That, during the lapse of time that has occurred since the last Assembly of this Most Puissant Grand Council, there has nothing whatever come within the province of the observation of your Committee, having the least resemblance to correspondence, either Foreign or "Domestic," consequently, as to advising this Grand Council of the state of Cryptic Masonry, in jurisdictions foreign to itself, your Committee have found themselves without compass, chart or trestle-board, and as wanderers in a desert. There are, perhaps, several causes, to which this apparent phenomenon may be attributed, but what particular one, if any to emphasize, your Committee are at loss to determine.

Perhaps the unhappy state of our loved country, in which an unnatural, internecine strife is raging, where comparatively but quite recently the olive branch suddenly withered before the uplifted sword, and white robed Peace fled terror-stricken at the approach of "grim-visaged War," may account for the non-reception of printed tidings from the Cryptic Craft of sister Grand Jurisdictions. With all due respect, your Committee would suggest, that there is a possibility that the cause of this apparent reticence of such Grand Jurisdictions may arise from the fact, that this Grand Council failed to commit the proceedings of its last Assembly to the hands of the disciples of the "noble Art preservative;" the result of which, as a natural consequence, has been to prevent our Right Puissant Grand Recorder from furnishing the Cryptic galaxy of sister Grand Councils with tangible evidence of the vitality of this Grand Council.

In view of this last reflection your Committee would respectfully and earnestly suggest the propriety and importance of this Grand Council instructing its Grand Recorder to prepare, at the ear-

liest practicable moment after this Annual Assembly shall have closed its labors, a full and complete record thereof, and cause the same to be printed in a proper style and manner, as early as possible, and to transmit copies thereof to all Grand Councils, thereby rendering an assurance that it "still lives," and moves and has an active being.

Should this suggestion receive a favorable consideration, your Committee have no doubt that the result would be a mutual reciprocation, and in consequence thereof our Grand Recorder would not, in the future, be without the proper materials to place in the hands of your future Committees on Foreign Correspondence, the necessary documents and information upon which to base a Report that may "prove of essential service to the Craft." In conclusion, your Committee beg leave to offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder be, and he is hereby authorized and directed, to prepare immediately after the close of the present Assembly of this Grand Council, the proceedings thereof, and of the three last Assemblies, and cause the same to be printed.

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder be directed to transmit six copies of such printed proceedings to each of the subordinate Councils under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council, immediately upon the reception thereof by him.

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder forward to each of the Grand Councils heretofore in correspondence with this Grand Council wherever practicable, three copies of the printed proceedings of this present Grand Assembly, and those of the three past years.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. Craig,
P. P. Murphy, } Committee.
J. D. Williams,

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and ordered on file:

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters:

Your Committee would respectfully report, that they have examined the various credentials and returns of the subordinate Councils, and present herewith a tabular statement of the same:

Columbian No. 1.....R. Ill. Daniel Wolff
Brooklyn, No. 4.....R. P. John Hoole, Proxy
Adelphic, No. 7 { .....R. P. John Hoole
.....Ill. H. E. Gilbert
Eureka, No. 8 { .....R. P. Aug. Willard
.....Ill. R. P. Barnard
Central City, No. 13 { .....R. Ill. Geo. W. Harwood
.....R. P. S. H. Stone
Bloss, No. 14.....T. Ill. M. W. Campbell
Bruce, No. 15.....M. P. Charles H. Platt, Proxy
Southern Tier, No. 16.....T. Ill. John D. Williams
Buffalo, No. 17.....T. Ill. James McCredie
King Hiram, No. 18.....R. Ill. Uriah Woodruff
Doric, No. 19.....T. Ill. C. W. Watson
Keystone, No. 20.....R. Ill. David F. Day
De Witt Clinton, No. 22 { .T. Ill. Frank Chamberlain
.....R. Ill. H. J. Fellows
.....Ill. J. W. Morange
Ontario, U. D.....Ill. H. W. McGonegal
Binghampton, U. D.....T. Ill. C. F. Paige

Respectfully submitted,

S. H. Stone,
Uriah Woodruff, } Committee.
S. T. Fisk,

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, and its recommendations were adopted.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York:

The undersigned Committee on Warrants respectfully beg leave to report, that they have considered the application for warrants from Ontario Council, of Geneva; Binghampton Council of Binghampton, under dispensation, and recommend that Charters be issued to said parties, under the name of Ontario Council, No. 23, and Binghampton Council, No. 24.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

Daniel Wolff,
John Hoole, } Committee.
W. W. Campbell,

The Grand Council then proceeded to the election of officers, the M. P. appointing as Tellers, R. P. Seymour H. Stone and Ill. R. P. Barnard.

M. P. Charles H. Platt was re-elected. Grand Master.
R. P. John Hoole was re-elected. . Dep. Grand Master.
R. P. James McCredie. . . . . Grand Ill. Master.
R. P. J. D. Williams. . . . . Grand P. C. of the W.
R. P. Josiah Shove. . . . . Grand Recorder.
R. P. John B. Harris. . . . . Grand Treasurer.

R. P. Augustus Willard then installed the officers-elect.

The Grand Master announced the following appointments:

R. Ill. Daniel Wolff. . . . . Grand C. of the G.
T. Ill. Mead Belden. . . . . Grand Marshal.
Rev. Comp. A. B. Beach, D. D.
Rev. Comp. John W. Parker } . . Grand Chaplains.
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk. . . . . Grand Lecturer.
T. Ill. C. W. Watson. . . . . Grand Steward.
Comp. Amasa J. Fuller. . . . . Grand Sentinel.

And the above named Companions were duly installed by the Grand Master. The Grand Marshal then proclaimed the installation of the officers of the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in Ample Form.

The Committee on Grievances presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, and ordered on file:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M.:

Your Committee on Grievances and Appeals beg most respectfully to report, that no case of Grievance and no Appeal, on any subject, has come before them for consideration.

Your Committee, therefore, feels great pleasure in congratulating the Grand Council on the perfect harmony which exists in all the branches of Cryptic Masonry throughout the jurisdiction, and would express the hope that such harmony may continue to be found in every succeeding Anniversary Assembly of this Grand Body.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Willard,
James M. Morange, } Committee.
H. W. McGonegal,

The Committee on Finance presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, and the recommendations therein contained were adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters:

Your Finance Committee would respectfully report, that they have carefully considered the various subjects referred to them, and beg leave to make the following recommendations:

First. That the back dues of Pennell Council, No. 2, be remitted.

Second. That, whereas, Oneida Council, No. 12, has failed to make returns and pay dues to this Grand Council for the last four years, the Warrant be declared forfeited, and the Grand Recorder be directed to demand its surrender.

Third. That, whereas, Hudson River Council, No. 21, has neglected to make returns and pay dues to this Grand Council for the last three years, the Grand Recorder be directed to notify the Council that if they fail to make returns and pay dues during the next sixty days, the Warrant will be forfeited and demanded.

Fourth. In the matter of printing the Proceedings of the present and the last three Annual Assemblies of this Grand Council, your Committee would recommend that the Grand Recorder be authorized to have three hundred copies of the same printed; and that he send three copies to each Subordinate Council in the United States, so far as is practicable. Your Committee would further report, that they have examined the reports of the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer referred to them, and find the same correct.

Respectfully submitted,

John Hoole,
James McCredie, } Committee.
J. Shove,

On motion of R. P. Comp. Stone, it was

Resolved, That the salary of the Grand Recorder for the past year be fixed at $50, and of the Grand Sentinel at $10.

On motion of R. P. Comp. Hoole, it was

Resolved, That the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council be held in the City of Albany, on the first Tuesday of February, A. Dep. 2866, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

On Foreign Correspondence:—T. Ill. Charles Craig, T. Ill. John D. Williams and R. Ill. Jason Collier.

On Unfinished Business:—T. Ill. John D. Williams, R. Ill. G. W. Harwood and R. P. Seymour H. Stone.

On motion, the thanks of the Grand Council were returned to T. Ill. Comp. Frank Chamberlain and Comp. Dickerman, for their generous hospitality extended to us this evening.

No further business appearing, the Minutes were read and approved, and the Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

JOSIAH SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

Moneys received during the Annual Assembly.

Columbian Council, No. 1	$6.25
Brooklyn Council, No. 4 for two years	22.75
Adelphic Council, No. 7	65.64
Eureka Council, No. 8	4.25
Central City Council, No. 13	14.00
Bloss Council, No. 14	43.88
Bruce Council, No. 15	25.80
Southern Tier Council, No. 16	24.20
Buffalo Council, No. 17	18.92
King Hiram Council, No. 18	9.25
Doric Council, No. 19	20.50
Keystone Council, No. 20	5.00
De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22	7.50
Ontario Council, U. D.	6.50
Ontario Council, U. D., Balance on Warrant	10.00
Binghampton Council, U. D., balance on Warrant	10.00
	$294.44

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL, 2865-2866.

M. P. Charles H. Platt, Grand Master.....Binghamton

R. P. John Hoole, Dep. Gr. Master.....New York

R. P. James McCredie, Gr. Illus. Master.....Buffalo

R. P. J. D. Williams, Gr. P. C. of the W.....Elmira

R. P. Josiah Shove, Grand Recorder.....New York

R. P. John B. Harris, Gr. Treasurer.....Brooklyn

R. P. Daniel Wolff, Gr. C. of the G.....New York

R. P. Mead Belden, Gr. Marshal.....Syracuse

R. P. and Rev. A. B. Beach,
R. P. and Rev. John W. Barker, } .....Gr. Chaplains

R. P. Sewall T. Fisk, Gr. Lecturer.....New York

P. C. W. Watson, Gr. Steward.....Rochester

P. Amasa J. Fuller, Gr. Sentinel.....Albany

Addresses.

Grand Master, Rev. C. H. Platt.....Binghamton

Grand Recorder, Josiah Shove, Box, 3,737.New York

Officers of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Council.	Master.	Deputy Master.	Prin. C. of W.	Recorder.
1 Columbian	William J. Surre	Daniel Wolff	James A. Reed	
2 Pennell				
4 Brooklyn	E. J. Spink	John M. Weeks	J. W. Osborne	Richard Sharp
7 Adelphic	John Hoole	J. S. Sanford	H. E. Gilbert	E. M. Alford, Jr.
8 Eureka	Aug. Willard	W. D. Purple	Robt. P. Barnard	Peter B. Rathbone
12 Oneida	No Returns			
13 Central City	Mead Belden	Geo. W. Harwood	S. H. Stone	George J. Gardner
14 Bloss	M. W. Campbell	Levi H. Button	A. B. King	Edward B. Cox
15 Bruce	Charles Craig	Jason Collier	R. B. Hoag	C. S. Onderdonk
16 Southern Tier	Jno. D. Williams	W. F. Tuttle	George Worrall	H. W. McIntire
17 Buffalo	James McCredie	P. B. Hitchcock	J. M. Averill	S. M. Evry
18 King Hiram	Lorenzo Lombard	Urial Woodruff	Dan'l W. Thorp	S. Hall Morris
19 Doric	C. W. Watson	W. B. Crandall	F. H. Marshall	Samuel C. Steele
20 Keystone	William Fleming	David F. Day	John Walls	William Hawkins
21 Hudson River	No Returns			
22 DeWitt Clinton	Frank Chamberlain	H. J. Fellows	J. W. Morange	G. S. Duncan
23 Ontario	Corydon Wheat	W. N. Smith	H. W. McGonegal	
24 Binghamton	Charles M. Brown	Geo. W. Seymour	Chauncey Marvin	

Abstract of Annual Returns of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Council.	Town.	County.	Received and greeted since 1861	Affiliated since 1861	Dimitted since 1861	Stricken from roll since 1861	Died since 1861	Present number members
1 Columbian	New York	New York	1	....	....	....	2	25
2 Pennell	New York	New York	9	....	7	....	....	21
4 Brooklyn	Brooklyn	Kings	13	1	....	2	1	41
7 Adelphic	New York	New York	91	1	36	29	7	172
8 Eureka	Greene	Chenango	4	....	....	6	....	17
12 Oneida*	Rome	Oneida	....	....	....	....	....	....
13 Central City	Syracuse	Onondaga	9	1	2	....	2	40
14 Bloss	Troy	Rensselaer	82	....	1	....	4	102
15 Bruce	Lockport	Niagara	35	2	1	....	3	64
6 Southern Tier	Elmira	Chemung	34	1	....	....	1	67
7 Buffalo	Buffalo	Erie	26	....	....	....	....	52
8 King Hiram	Auburn	Cayuga	16	2	2	....	3	33
9 Doric	Rochester	Monroe	25	....	....	....	....	52
'0 Keystone	Buffalo	Erie	5	....	1	....	....	17
'1 Hudson River*	Rondout	Ulster	..	....	....	....	....	....
'2 DeWitt Clinton	Albany	Albany	23	5	....	....	1	27
'3 Ontario	Geneva	Ontario	....	....	....	....	....	11
'4 Binghamton+	Binghamton	Broome	....	....	....	....	....	....
			373	13	50	37	29	741

*No Returns. +New Councils.

The following amendments to the Constitution were unanimously adopted at this Annual Assembly:

Article I, Section 15:—For every Comp. Received and Greeted in a Subordinate Council, 50c. For adjoining Fee of a Select Master, 50c. Every Council shall pay for each of its Members annually, 50c.

Article II, Section 12:—No Council under this jurisdiction shall confer the Degrees for a less sum than ten dollars, etc.

GRAND COUNCIL—ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Grand Council Room.

Albany, Tuesday Feb. 6, A. D. 1866, A. Dep. 2866.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York convened in Annual Assembly in the City of Albany, in accordance with a resolution of the last Annual Assembly, on Tuesday, February 6th, A. D. 1866, A. Dep. 2866. Present:

M. P. Charles H. Platt.....Grand Master.
R. P. John Hoole.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. James McCredie....Grand Illustrious Master.
R. P. J. D. Williams.....Grand P. C. of the Work.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. Daniel Wolff.....Grand C. of the Guard.
T. I. C. M. Brown.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. R. H. Robinson.....Grand Chaplain.
R. I. G. W. Harwood..... .....Grand Steward.
P. Amasa Fuller.....Grand Sentinel.
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.....Grand Lecturer.
M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting.....Past Grand Master.
R. P. Seymour H. Stone.Past Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. Bradley Parker.Past Grand Illustrious Master.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Columbian, No. 1,
Pennell, No. 2,
Brooklyn, No. 4,
Adelphic, No. 7,
Central City, No. 13,
Bloss, No. 14,
Bruce, No. 15,
Southern Tier, No. 16,
Buffalo, No. 17,
Doric, No. 19,
De Witt Clinton, No. 22,
Ontario, No. 23.
Binghampton, No. 24,
Palmyra U. D.
Dunkirk, U. D.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form by the M. P. Grand Master. On motion of R. P. Comp. Josiah Shove, it was

Resolved, That all Companion Select Masters in good standing in the Order be invited to take seats as visitors in this Grand Council.

On motion of R. P. Comp. Jas. McCredie the reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Assembly was dispensed with.

The M. P. Grand Master then delivered his Annual Address, which was, on motion, orderd to be spread at length upon the Minutes, and was referred to a Committee of three to apportion the various subjects therein treated of to appropriate Committees.

THE ADDRESS.

Companions—Associates in these Masonic Duties.

The first lesson that glimmers upon the initiate, after passing the ordeal of access, is the assured confidence with which one ought to proceed who has put his trust in God. It is made primary, not that it may be dispensed with as we advance beyond the rudiments of instruction, but that it may, most unobstructedly, lodge itself in our hearts, and may not cease to reside in our thoughts and influence our conduct. We make every step in advance, in every circuit towards the brighter light, with this original impression recorded upon our memory and recognized by our faith. But a reasonable trust in Divine Providence implies an intelligent recollection of Divine favors. He has no loving trust in that for whose goodness he has no cheerful thanks. The art of seeking favors is the habit of recollecting favors. A disposition that expects kindness, is a promptness to discern and acknowledge such tokens as it has received. The shortest memory makes the poorest faith. And that degree of faith which ladders our heavy hearts up towards the Highest, is measured by the extent of view to which it lifts us, for our backward look over the benefits of the past. And so benignantly are we constructed by the Adorable Architect of our immortality, that the grateful memory and hopeful trust strengthen, and animate, and sustain each other. The mind that museth on many things and warms in its reflections with gratitude, returns to the sanctuary of its most sacred feelings with a clearer, stronger, braver trust in God. Reverse the journeying and call the soul forth to survey the words of Providence, with its sense of God's superintending and pervading goodness all alive, and how instantly the light of that inner sanctuary breaks upon the whole scene!

That soul has been walking with the Sun in the East and when it cometh forth it is with the gladness of the bridegroom, and the whole landscape brightens with the day that travels with such a soul. While our professed trust in God is thus denoted by our recollection of benefits received, its firmness of tone and its clearness of vision are also heightened by this exercise of grateful memory. The first item of our profession as brethren and the ceaseless duty of

our fidelity as Companions, summon us to assist and encourage each other in reminiscences which are occasions of congratulations.

Indulge me, then, in some expansion of those subjects which should at this time be occupying our minds in the act of glad and grateful remembrance.

Foremost of these challenges for our acknowledgment, is the recurrence of this our annual assemblage from remote parts of the State, with no melancholy record of those saluting us a year ago, and now gathered to the silent vaults. Not that we can exult in all our Councils being exempt from that intruder whose stealthy and fatal step defies our sleepless vigilance. But the roll of associates gathered here for cryptic consultation one year ago, bears no testimony to start the friendly tear.

It is otherwise with that lengthened catalogue which exhibits our record of those living among the active and valued supporters of our various vaults. The vail that is suspended between the realms of light and the mortal eye, has been symbolized to us by the funeral pall that has lain upon the breathless body of our companions. Personal acquaintance and admiration impel me to register among our sorrows, and justice to a bright and shining light requires me to recollect among our lost privileges, a departed companion, who was serving, until his demise, in the capacity of Recorder, in Bruce Council, No. 15. With faculties always on the alert, with avidity for knowledge, which made him as zealous as he was an intelligent Free Mason, with a conscience carefully guarded from offense, with a warmth of natural feeling which made his sympathies as a companion keen and fervid, he was one of those glowing examples, as a young man, around whose future the most honorable expectations would cluster. When our fellowship in these labors of life is ended, and one and another of such useful associates is received into the Temple not made with hands, we confess the privation thus allotted to us survivors, we render the tribute of praise to their merits, and of a sigh at their departure. But that is not all which becomes us. Their virtues are to be extolled as their separation from the living is deplored. A thankful sense of the incitement which our zeal has derived from their example, is no meagre element of our duty. We owe their memory at least the acknowledgment, that while Masonry has conferred honors upon them, it has been their part to illustrate its annals. We, that now carry forward the ark of the testimony, have occasion to rejoice that other companions have faithfully pursued their calling, and creditably finished their course.

We measure the dimensions, of a true dignity, not by the elastic fallacies of a misjudging populace, but by the reed fitted for the

sanctuary and shown in vision to the prophet-priest by the river of Chebar, and Jonson phrases it for us in his rhythm:

> "It is not growing like a tree
> In bulk, doth make man better be,
> Or standing long an oak, three hundred year,
> To fall a log at last, dry, bald and sere.
> A lily of a day,
> Aye, fairer far in May,
> Although it fall, and that night
> It was the plant and flower of light."

It is no slight recommendation of our institution, that from generation to generation, men of high character and of enviable culture, impelled by no mercenary motives, have sought the illumination of Masonic privilege, and have at length passed the veil of the eternal sanctuary, rejoicing at what they had through our institution attained, and eager for the light that lies beyond, a light that darts its premonitory rays even into the caverns of the dead. That institution is not only a benefit to mankind, but an imposing power among men, which can thus enlist the worthiest and satisfy the most acute, and be hailed and honored by the great and the noble, while it steadfastly maintains its principle that levels all factitious distinctions, rallies for mankind's good the freeborn of men, and prefers the sanctity of brotherhood to the aggrandizement of self. Among the gratulations of the hour, therefore, we record the testimonies of a more favorable regard towards our Masonic institution. It is ceasing to be tabooed among the erudite, as if its lessons were childish and rudimental. It has conquered by its prudence and fortitude, the savage array of prejudice and suspicion. Fewer are the javelins aimed at its ribs as if it were a Trojan horse, and less virulent is the alarming philippic of the demagogue than when he feared it as the spectral ubiquity of a political cabal.

Our felicitation over receding hostility may seem misplaced when confronted by that splenetic missive from the Vatican in which Pius IX. has emulated the anathemas as he copied the errors of the XII. Clement, the XIV. Benedict, and the XII. Leo. He inveighs against "that perverse society of men, vulgarly styled Masonic, which, at first confined to darkness and obscurity, now comes into light for the common ruin of religion and human society." But we patiently endure this goring of the Roman Bull. We leave it to impale its own cause on one of its own horse. For it admits that this Society once limited to darkness now comes into light. And the only sentence of inspiration on which this papal allocution rests is one that came from an eminent patron of

Masonry and an Apostle, too, who declares, "everyone that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light."

No doubt this fulmination was intended for other lands than your own. But, taken in that sense, its confession of the occasion for its utterance shows the gathered power and prevalence of the Masonic fraternity. For the groan that mingles with the curse of the Pontiff thus expresses itself:

"The Masonic sect of which we speak has not been vanquished nor overthrown; on the contrary, it has developed itself, that in these troublous days it exists everywhere with impunity, and carries an audacious front." It may be possible that in the flood of accession to our traditional light among Europeans, many identified with our system have arrayed themselves against certain local phases of religion, or concerted with those attempting to subvert civil institutions that have grown effete or intolerable. But it is the man, the weak and misguided man, unrestrained by and unfaithful to his Masonry, who is thus disturbing religious or civil order. And it is the Mason, illumined and animated by his light coming from Solomon and St. John, who asserts his manhood and illustrates his brotherhood by exposing superstition and denouncing tyrany. "All men have erred, and all who err need repentance;" but no Mason need repent of that mystic ceremonial which has fortified his faith, enlarged his charity, reproved his irreligion and concentrated his affections in that heaven where there is no darkness at all.

We are restricted, however, by our own special business of the hour, to a narrower field of observation. Let us, then, encourage ourselves with the solid results of Cryptic Masonry within our own jurisdiction and that in its mere limitation to our own State. Compare the vigor and auspice of the present with the resources and prospects of Cryptic Masonry less than nine years ago. The returns at that period indicated the active existence of but six Councils, and one-half of those soon afterwards were extinct. Now we have within our State at least twenty active and thrifty organizations, and some of these larger in numbers than the aggregate within our jurisdiction ten years since. Nine years ago, and the members of all our Councils were not 150; now the Grand Record exhibits more than 800. Then the whole weight of our jurisdiction lay within the suburbs of New York, and inextinguishable Eureka, with her indomitable and warm-hearted supporters, is the only survivor of our Central, Western, or Northern light at that time. But now the South, and the Centre, and the West, join hands in fervency and zeal. Wherever Masonry flourishes, achieving harmony, and assuming its rightful place in public honor and private influence, there our Cryptic privilege displays itself like the blessed

mountain tops in wholesome, fertile lands, first greeting the light of the East, inviting the heavenly chariots of refreshing dew and rain, the summits (once so honored) of the ancient craft. I trust we shall not long continue to report that in our Grand Council the North is territorially the place of darkness. Six years ago one of the blemishes upon our Cryptic Shield was, happily, effaced in the exercise of Masonic virtues, each conceding a little and all gaining much, and from that time, with no contesting claimant, with no clandestine bodies thorning its side, the United Council, invigorated by the ancient material added to its force, cherishing the historical merits of its super-excellent degree, has advanced in its recognition as holding the key to the secret repository of the ancient Craft. The four years of social quaking have disconnected the bands that gave us constant communication throughout the United States. But through all that spasm of society we have gone, unshattered and undiminished, with the same heart of brotherhood that first quivered in distress at the sound of war, and with our hands outstretched to reach the shoulders of our unforgotten brethren and greet them with a royal fidelity.

During the past year I have issued Dispensations for four new Councils, located respectively at Batavia, Genesee Co., Palmyra, Wayne Co., Dunkirk, Chautauqua Co., and Watertown, Jefferson Co. Application is made on behalf of each of these for a Warrant from this Grand Council.

There are other points where organizations are projected, which will no doubt be soon submitted to the consideration of this Grand Body, or of the functionaries acting on its behalf.

Our R. P. Dep. G. Master represents most satisfactory progress in Columbian, Pennell, Brooklyn, and Adelphic Councils. They fall within the near circuit of his observation. He has vigilantly noted their condition and duly reported their aspect as our Cryptic year drew towards its close.

Our R. P. Grand Illustrious Master has devoted energies with good success to the establishment of promising Councils at Batavia and Dunkirk. In accomplishing the promulgation of our work, under intelligent management at Palmyra, great credit is due to our P. Grand Steward.

During the past year I have, in the exercise of my high powers, constituted and dedicated Ontario Council, No. 23, and Binghampton Council, No. 24, installing the officers in both Councils. I have officially visited Bruce Council, No. 15. I have also visited and presided in Eureka Council, No. 8. This organization, sustained through great difficulties, continues to reflect credit upon its few but sturdy and determined adherents, Masons whose his-

tory is the renown of the Craft and is identical with the memorials of heroism and fortitude. I have on two occasions visited Southern Tier Council, No. 16, and have presided therein.

On the 29th of May last, I was present at the Assembly, in the same Hall of Buffalo Council, No. 17, and Keystone Council, No. 20. Special assemblies were opened by each for the transaction of business pertinent to each organization, but they wrought in unison while conferring degrees. Disaster had compelled them to resort to the same place for their work; brotherly harmony rendered it a verification of what is symbolized by the two Cherubim looking inward and seeking the Shekinah.

I have also visited and presided in Doric Council, No. 19, Binghampton Council, No. 24, and Watertown Council, U. D.

There are several topics of general interest in Cryptic Masonry, suggested by the action of other Grand Councils and by the language of their officials. Such was that suicidal whisper in Ohio for launching the immortalities of Cryptic Masonry into darkness.

More practically worthy of our notice was the proposed publication of a Manual for Councils, with monitorial items of important history. And still more seasonable to us is the inquiry as to the precise order we shall observe in the collocation of our three degrees. But I have reserved all these subjects as more germane to the discussions of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. I would submit the propriety of so conforming our Constitution to be changed rate of values, that no Council shall confer the degrees for a less sum than ten (10) dollars, and that in Sec. 15, of Art. I, specifying the sources of the revenues of this Grand Council, each item now noted at twenty-five cents, be changed to fifty cents, thereby enabling us to render some compensation to those officers of the Grand Council necessarily in attendance here, who do not appear as representatives, and therefore no provision made for their expense and labor. With the elation of the proudest hopes do I now remit these responsible functions to those who shall succeed to our station and authority, and I utter the wish for the prosperity of this new firmly established summit of Masonry, under the persuasion that every augury justifies the prayer.

ESTO PERPETUA.

The M. P. appointed as Committee on Address R. P. Comps. Stone, Fisk and Parker. The Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer presented the following Reports, which were, on motion, received and referred to the Finance Committee.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Grand Recorder begs to present the following Annual Report:

Received, during last Annual Assembly.....	$294.44
Received, during the year for 27 seals to Certif.	13.50
Received, April 18. Dues for Binghampton Council	3.00
Received, October 18, for Dispensation Batavia Council	20.00
Received, October 20, for Dispensation Palmyra Council	20.00
Received, Nov. 23, for Dispensation for Grand Master	7.00
Received, Dec. 14, for Dispensation Dunkirk Council	20.00
Received, Dec. 28, for Dispensation Watertown Council	20.00
Received, Jan. 6, for Dispensation Central City Council	.50
	$398.44

All of which has been paid to the Grand Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

New York, February 5th, 1866.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Treasurer submits the following as his Annual Report of the Receipts and Disbursements during the past year.

Balance cash in hand as per last report		$108.25
Received February 7th, 1865, from Grand Recorder		294.44
Received during the year from Grand Recorder		104.00
		$506.69
Paid Warrant No. 46	$50.00	
Paid Warrant No. 47	10.00	
Paid Warrant No. 48	188.92	— 248.92
Balance cash in my hands		$257.77

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN B. HARRIS, Grand Treasurer.

New York, February 5th, 1866.

The M. P. Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees:

On Credentials and Returns:—R. P. John Hoole, R. P. Josiah Shove, R. P. S. T. Fisk.

On Warrants and Dispensations:—R. P. Daniel Wolff, R. I. H. W. McGonegal and T. Ill. H. B. Harvey.

On Constitution and By-Laws:—M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting, R. P. Bradley Parker, R. P. John D. Williams.

On Grievances and Appeals:—T. Ill. Henry E. Gilbert, T. Ill. J. W. Morange, R. I. W. H. McCoy.

On Finance:—R. P. James McCredie, R. Ill. F. H. Marshall, T. Ill. C. M. Brown.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and ordered spread upon the Minutes.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

The Committee on Credentials and Returns report that the following Councils have made returns and paid dues, and their representatives are entitled to seats in this Grand Council:

Columbian, No. 1.....R. P. Daniel Wolff.
Pennell, No. 2.....R. I. Wm. H. Jahne.
Brooklyn, No. 4.....R. P. Bradley Parker.
Adelphic, No. 7.....T. I. Henry E. Gilbert.
Central City, No. 13.....R. I. Geo. W. Harwood.
Bloss, No. 14.....T. I. H. B. Harvey.
Bruce, No. 15.....R. I. Warner H. McCoy.
Southern Tier, No. 16.....R. I. J. K. Nichols.
Buffalo, No. 17.....R. P. James McCredie.
King Hiram, No. 18.....———
Doric, No. 19.....R. I. F. H. Marshall.
De Witt Clinton, No. 22....T. I. James W. Morange.
Ontario, No. 23.....R. I. H. W. McGonegal.
Binghampton, No. 24.....T. I. C. M. Brown.

J. Shove,
John Hoole, } Committee.
S. F. Fisk,

The Committee on Unfinished Business reported that there had been nothing brought before them requiring any action on their part, and, on motion, the Report was received and the Committee was discharged.

The Committee on the Grand Master's Address presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and its recommendations were adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters:

The Committee to whom was referred the Address of the M. P. G. M. respectfully recommend, that so much of the same as refers to Dispensations be referred to the Committee on Warrants. And so much as refers to Amendments of the Constitution to the Committee on Constitution. And the last clause of the Address, referring to the successor of the M. P. G. M., to the Committee of the Whole, with power.

S. H. Stone,
S. T. Fisk, } Committee.
B. Parker,

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented their Report, which was, on motion, received and ordered spread upon Minutes.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully ask leave to present the following Report, as the result of their labors in that capacity. We have been put in possession, by our Right Puissant Grand Recorder, of the printed proceedings of the following named State Grand Councils, viz: Iowa for 1864; Illinois for 1864-'65; Kentucky for 1864-'65; Louisiana for 1865; Maine for 1864-'65; Michigan for 1863; Pennsylvania for 1863-'64-'65; Vermont for 1864-'65; Wisconsin for 1862-'63-'64; making out the "sacred number nine," of our sister Grand Councils that have thus far greeted this Grand Council with evident tangibility of their active existence. But, now that grim visaged war hath smoothed his wrinkled front, and bruised arms are hung up for monuments, stern alarms are changing to merry meetings, and dreadful marches to delightful measures, we trust that ere long this Most Puissant Body will be greeted by the still small voices of such of its sister Grand Councils in our Union of States as have not recently been heard above the din of fraternal strife and clash of arms, that has resounded throughout the length and breadth of our fair land. It is a source of pleasure to learn from such Grand Councils as have favored us with their printed proceedings, that the Cryptic Brotherhood within their respective jurisdictions, are firm in their faith and unswerving in their fidelity to the trusts reposed in them, and that the ring of the Trowel is heard reverberating throughout the Arches far and near. Still, this pleasure comes to us not altogether unalloyed. In several of such proceedings, we observe, with emotions of pain and fraternal sympathy, are memorial pages set apart, enshrouded with heavy lines of sombre hue, containing names, and modest allusions to their manly virtues, of illustrious and cherished companions, who have shaken off this mortal coil and gone to eternal rest. Some of them, from the natural causes that flesh is heir to, and some by the fatal bullet on the battle-field, wither they had been drawn by a sense of personal duty. Indeed, our own Grand Council has an unhealed wound that gapes afresh at the mentioning of this painful subject, when thought instinctively reverts to our lamented Benjamin, who fell pierced through the brain by the fatal bullet, in a dreadful charge at Port Huron. But thanks to the great Architect of the Universe, war, that has stalked abroad in our land with such relentless fury, has now ceased to exist, and Peace once more asserts her rule and sway, and extends the olive

branch to all, and invites such Companions as may have been engaged in heated, deadly strife, to beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks, to forget their animosity, and again, as in happy days of yore, to assemble in fraternal concord around the sacred altar, and there renew their solemn vows of fealty, and exert their united efforts in relieving the poor, oppressed and distressesd—the bereaved widow, and especially the helpless orphan. May He, who keeps us as in the hollow of His hand, grant all this and even more, for "Peace hath her votaries no less renowned than war."

Your Committee much regret that so few of the Grand Councils of the United States have been heard from, through their published proceedings, during the past year. But we suppose the reason may be attributed to the recent long continued disruption of the Union of States, which must, of necessity, have caused most serious inconvenience and disturbance, not only to the entire Masonic craft, but particularly so to those of the more southern portion of our Union, whose hours of active operations, in times of tranquility and repose, were when all prying eyes should be closed in sleep. To all such, we say, be not wearied in well-doing. Happy and prosperous days are yet in store for you, and we bid you Godspeed in the cause. Your cause is our cause, and again we say be not weary, "for there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that the tender branch thereof will not cease, but will sprout again, etc. * * * "

The Committee on Constitutions and By-Laws presented the following Report, embodying amendments to the Constitution, and, on motion, the Report was received and the amendments were unanimously adopted, thus bringing them into immediate effect.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council:

In accordance with the recommendation of the Most Puissant in his Address, the Committee on Constitutions and By-Laws beg leave to offer the following resolutions for adoption:

Resolved, That Article I, Section 15, be amended so as to read, "For every Companion received and greeted in a subordinate Council, fifty cents," instead of twenty-five; also for adjoining fee of every Select Master "fifty cents."

Every Council shall pay for each of its members annually fifty cents.

Resolved, That Article II, Section 12, be amended in the second line, so as to read, "Ten" instead of Five dollars.

Henry F. L. Bunting,
John D. Williams, } Committee.
Bradley Parker,

Albany, February 6th, 1866.

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and its recommendations were adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters:

Your Committee on Warrants and Dispensations beg leave to report favorably on granting Warrants to Companions Frederick F. Driggs, Walter C. Smith and A. H. Libby, to form a Council of Royal and Select Masters in Dunkirk, N. Y., to be called Dunkirk Council of Royal and Select Masters, and to be numbered 25.

To Companions Elijah Ennis, Thomas L. Root and Mark C. Finley, to form a Council of Royal and Select Masters in Palmyra, N. Y., to be called Palmyra Council of Royal and Select Masters, and to be numbered 26.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

D. Wolff,
H. B. Harvey,
H. W. McGonegal.

The Grand Council then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result:

M. P. and Rev. Chas. H. Platt was re-elected...Grand Master.
R. P. John Hoole was re-elected.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. James McCredie.....Grand Ill. Master.
R. P. Jno. D. Williams.....Grand P. C. of the W,
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting.....Grand Treasurer.

The officers-elect were then installed in Ample Form, by M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting, Past Grand Master.

The M. P. Grand Master made the following appointments:

R. P. Daniel Wolff.....Grand C. of the G.
R. P. Mead Belden.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. R. H. Robinson.....Grand Chaplain.
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.....Grand Lecturer.
P. F. F. Driggs.....Grand Steward.
P. Amasa Fuller.....Grand Sentinel.

All of whom were duly installed.

As Committee on Foreign Correspondence:—T. Ill. Chas. Craig, R. P. Jno. D. Williams, R. P. Jas. McCredie.

On Unfinished Business:—R. P. Seymour H. Stone, R. P. James McCredie, R. I. Wm. H. Jahne.

The Finance Committee presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, and its recommendations were adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Finance Committee would respectfully report that they have examined the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer, and find them correct.

Your Committee would further report, that in view of the state of the funds of this Grand Council, the amount now on hand, including the receipts for the present session, being about six hundred and fifty dollars ($650), would recommend that some compensation be paid to the Grand Officers and Representatives. The Committee do not feel willing to name any specific amount, but leave the matter to the judgment of the Grand Council. They would also recommend that the sum of $75. be paid the Grand Recorder for his services the past year, and $10. to the Grand Sentinel.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

James McCredie,
F. H. Marshall,
C. M. Brown.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That one Representative from each Council making returns and paying dues, the Grand Officers and members of this Grand Council, be paid five cents per mile for their attendance at this Annual Assembly.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals reported that no appeals and no matters of grievance had been brought before them; and, on motion, the Report was received and ordered spread upon the Minutes.

The M. P. Grand Master appointed the following Special Committee on Finance:—R. P. Daniel Wolff, T. I. Henry E. Gilbert, and T. I. Stephen Merrett, Jr.

On motion, the Grand Recorder was authorized to have 250 copies of the proceedings of this Annual Assembly printed, to be sent in the usual number to the Subordinate Councils and Grand Officers of this jurisdiction, and to our sister Grand Councils.

On motion, the subject of Work and Lectures was referred to the first four officers of the Grand Council. On motion of R. P. Comp. Hoole, it was,

Resolved, That the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council to be held in the City of Albany, on the first Tuesday of February, A. Dep. 2867, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

No further business appearing, the Minutes were read and approved, and the Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

JOSIAH SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

MONEYS RECEIVED DURING THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Columbian Council, No. 1	$25.25
Pennell Council, No. 2	18.48
Brooklyn Council, No. 4	19.75
Adelphic Council, No. 7	69.38
Central City Council, No. 13	17.50
Bloss Council, No. 14	39.21
Bruce Council, No. 15	17.78
Southern Tier Council, No. 16	20.30
Buffalo Council, No. 17	47.81
King Hiram Council, No. 18	14.75
Doric Council, No. 19	33.00
De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22	23.75
Ontario Council, No. 23	5.50
Binghampton Council, No. 24	14.85
Dunkirk Council, No. 25	6.00
Dunkirk Council, No. 25, Balance on Warrant	10.00
Palmyra Council, No. 26	7.31
Palmyra Council, No. 26, Balance on Warrant	10.00
Batavia Council, U. D	12.00
	$412.62

Officers of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Council.	Master.	Deputy Master.	Prin. C. of W.	Recorder.
1 Columbian	Daniel Wolff	James A. Reid	William F. T. Thiers	Elly Zacharie
2 Pennell	Stephen Merrett, Jr	Moses E. Wilson	Robert Stephens	Edward L. King
4 Brooklyn	Edward Cooper	J. W. Osborn	J. A. Shepard	Richard Sharp
7 Adelphic	Henry E. Gilbert	John Young	Asa D. Bennett	Edwin M. Alford, Jr.
8 Eureka	No Returns			
12 Oneida	No Returns			
13 Central City	Mead Belden	Geo. W. Harwood	Edw'd H. Brown	Geo. J. Gardner
14 Bloss	H. B. Harvey	S. M. Dutcher	Jas. H. Goodsell	Edw'd B. Cox
15 Bruce	Charles Craig	Rich'd B. Hoag	W. H. McCoy	Geo. W. Hall
16 Southern Tier	John D. Williams	J. K. Nichols	Maurice Levy	
17 Buffalo	James McCredie	P. B. Hitchcock	J. M. Averill	S. M. Evry
18 King Hiram	Lorenzo Lombard	Urial Woodruff	Dan'l W. Thorp	Jno. C. White
19 Doric	C. W. Watson	W. B. Crandall	F. H. Marshall	Geo. W. Ludlow
20 Keystone	No Returns			
21 Hudson River	No Returns			
22 DeWitt Clinton	Jas. W. Morange	Wm. H. VanAllen	Aug. G. Cole	Chas. T. Platto
23 Ontario	P. W. Durant	Wm. H. Smith	H. W. McGonegal	W. N. Smith
24 Binghamton	Geo. W. Seymour	Chauncey Marvin	D. R. Grant	B. S. Curran
25 Dunkirk	Fred'k. F. Driggs	Walter C. Smith	A. H. Libby	
26 Palmyra	Elijah Ennis	Thos. L. Root	Mark C. Finley	V. Nims
Batavia U. D.	David Seaver	Weeden T. Bliss	Edward W. Powers	C. H. Merrill
Watertown U. D.	Lysander H. Brown	Allen C. Beach	A. H. Sawyer	

Abstract of Annual Returns of Subordinate Councils

Under Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Council.	Town.	County.	Received and greeted since 1865	Affiliated since 1865	Dimitted since 1865	Stricken from roll since 1865	Died since 1865	Present number members
1 Columbian	New York	New York	30	....	1	1	..	57
2 Pennell	New York	New York	27	....	....	....	..	33
4 Brooklyn	Brooklyn	Kings	14	....	1	3	1	50
7 Adelphic	New York	New York	45	....	3	....	..	212
8 Eureka*	Greene	Chenango	....	....	....	....	..	....
12 Oneida*	Rome	Oneida	....	....	....	....	..	....
13 Central City	Syracuse	Onondaga	10	....	....	....	..	50

14	Bloss	Troy	Rensselaer	20	....	3	....	2	120
15	Bruce	Lockport	Niagara	13	....	....	....	2	54
16	Southern Tier	Elmira	Chemung	11	....	....	14	..	64
17	Buffalo	Buffalo	Erie	58	....	21	....	..	87
18	King Hiram	Auburn	Cayuga	10	....	1	....	..	42
19	Doric	Rochester	Monroe	40	....	....	....	..	92
20	Keystone*	Buffalo	Erie	....	....	....	....	..	....
21	Hudson River*	Rondout	Ulster	....	....	....	....	..	....
22	DeWitt Clinton	Albany	Albany	23	....	....	....	..	47
23	Ontario	Geneva	Ontario	4	....	....	....	..	14
24	Binghamton	Binghamton	Broome	18	....	....	....	..	35
25	Dunkirk	Dunkirk	Chautauqua	7	...	...	....	..	19
26	Palmyra	Palmyra	Wayne	13	...	....	....	..	16
	Batavia U. D.	Batavia	Genesee	12	3	....	....	..	24
	Watertown U. D.	Watertown	Jefferson	....	....	....	....	..	9
				355	3	31	18	7	1025

*No Returns.

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL, 2866-2867.

M. P. Charles H. Platt, Grand Master. Binghampton.

R. P. John Hoole, Dep. Gr. Master.....New York.

R. P. James McCredie, Gr. Ill. Master.....Buffalo.

R. P. John D. Williams, Gr. P. C, of the W..Elmira,

R. P. Josiah Shove, Gr. Recorder.....New York.

M. P. Henry L. Bunting, Gr. Treasurer..New York.

R. P. Daniel Wolff, Gr. C. of the G.....New York.

R. P. Mead Belden, Gr. Marshal.....Syracuse.

R. P. and Rev. R. H. Robinson, Gr. Chaplain. Albany.

R. P. Sewall T. Fisk, Gr. Lecturer.....New York.

P. Frederick F. Driggs, Gr. Steward....Dunkirk.

P. Amasa Fuller, Gr. Sentinel.....Albany.

Addresses.

Grand Master, Rev. C. H. Platt.....Binghampton.

Grand Recorder, Josiah Shove, Box 3737..New York.

All Communications for the Grand Recorder should be addressed as above.

GRAND COUNCIL—ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Grand Council Room.

Albany, Tuesday, Feb. 5th, A. D. 1867. A. Dep. 2867.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York convened in Annual Assembly in the City of Albany, in accordance with a resolution of the last Annual Assembly, on Tuesday, February 5th, A. D. 1867, A. Dep. 2867. Present:

M. P. Charles H. Platt.....Grand Master.
R. P. John Hoole.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. James McCredie....Grand Illustrious Master.
R. P. John D. Williams.....Grand P. C. of the W.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting.....Grand Treasurer.
R. P. Daniel Wolff.....Grand C. of the Guard.
T. I. Joseph B. Chaffee as.....Grand Marshal.
Rev. J. G. Websters as.....Grand Chaplain.
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.....Grand Lecturer.
P Frederick F. Driggs.....Grand Steward.
P. Amasa Fuller.....Grand Sentinel.
R. P. Seymour H. Stone. Past Deputy Grand Master.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Columbian, No. 1,
Pennell, No. 2,
Brooklyn, No. 4,
Adelphic, No. 7,
Eureka, No. 8,
Central City, No. 13,
Bloss, No. 14,
Bruce, No. 15,
Southern Tier, No. 16,
Buffalo, No. 17,
King Hiram, No. 18,
Doric, No. 19,
Keystone, No. 20,
De Witt Clinton, No. 22,
Ontario, No. 23,
Binghampton, No. 24,
Dunkirk, No. 25,
Palmyra, No. 26,
Batavia, No. 27.

On motion of R. P. J. D. Williams, the reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Assembly was dispensed with, printed copies of the same having been furnished to all the Councils.

The following Minutes of Special Assemblies of this Grand Council were read and approved:

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY

of the Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York, held by Order of the M. P. Grand Master, in the City of New York, June 5th, A. D. 1866, A. Dep. 2866. Present:

R. P. John Hoole.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. John D. Williams.....Grand P. C. of the W.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting.....Grand Treasurer.
R. P. Daniel Wolff.....Grand C. of the G.
R. P. Sewall T. Fisk.....Grand Lecturer.

And the Representatives of

Columbian Council, No. 1,
Adelphic Council, No. 7,
Bloss Council, No. 14,
Southern Tier Council, No. 16.

The Grand Council was opened without form.

The M. P. Grand Master was reported in the city, but detained from this Assembly by sickness.

An application was received from Batavia Council, U. D., for a Warrant, and, on motion, the same was granted.

No further business appearing, the Grand Council was called from labor to refreshment until the 8th instant.

New York, Friday, June 8th, 2866.

The Grand Council resumed its Session. Present:

M. P. Charles H. Platt.....Grand Master.
R. P. John Hoole.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. Daniel Wolff.....Grand C. of the Guard.

And the Representatives of

Columbian Council, No. 1,
Brooklyn Council, No. 4,
Adelphic Council, No. 7,
Binghampton Council, No. 24.

Labor was resumed by the M. P. Grand Master. M. P. Companion C. H. Platt, from the Committee on Work and Lectures, presented a report of progress, detailing the result of their labors and researches thus far, and recommending that the Grand Lecturer be called on to exemplify the work of the Super-Excellent Master's degree before the Grand Council. On motion, the report was received and the recommendation was adopted. At the conclusion of the exemplification of the work, no further business appearing, the Grand Council was closed.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

The M. P. Grand Master then delivered his Annual Address, which was, on motion, ordered to be spread at length upon the minutes, and was referred to a committee of three to apportion the subjects therein treated of to appropriate committees.

THE ADDRESS.

CRYPTIC COMPANIONS:

To the Father of Lights, who has illumined our darkness and granted us the peaceful enjoyment of our privileges, our thanks are rendered with the recurrence of another year. A genuine prosperity has attended our efforts. Tranquility and harmony has been signally allotted to the select few. We pursue our work in the methods of unobtrusive quietude, and at the seasons of unobserved diligence, which are so impressively symbolized by the ceremonies of our Royal and Select Art. In the stillness of the night, "when deep sleep falleth upon men," then does our parable represent the Great Builder of human hopes, the Almighty Founder of man's brightest destiny, as drawing nigh to disclose the mystery of truth's guard and preservation and perpetuation. And so we recognize the presence of a blessing that shall solidify our work, not amid the reverberations of employment that challenges the attention of the world, but in the calm silence of our imperturbed peace and contentment. In appeals to public attention, in stunning vindications of our system, in rapid and surprising multiplication of our Councils, or in energetic discussion of our jurisprudence, we have not challenged the observation of men. But the interior work has meantime progressed and flourished, and the quiet fact of our stability is the irrefutable argument of our work.

During the past year I have granted a Dispensation for but one new Council. It is known by the name of Utica Council and is located in the city of Utica. T. Ill. Rees G. Williams presiding as Master, and having as his associates in the East, R. Ill. T. W. Bolles and Ill. Chas. B. Foster. Indirect intelligence of their success in establishing Cryptic Masonry at this centre of our jurisdiction has been conveyed to me, and I trust they will permit this Body to place its endorsement upon their selection of material and their exactness in work by authorizing the seal upon a Warrant.

The Companions who have actively sustained this important experiment were prompted and encouraged and are still favored by two most worthy names upon the records of Masonry in Central New York, the venerable Barnum, and our zealous Companion Zenas C. Priest.

Our R. P. Companion J. McCredie has duly reported to me his action in constituting and dedicating Dunkirk Council, No. 25, and Batavia Council, No. 27, and installing their officers respectively, the former on the 23d of February, 2866, and the latter on the 8th of August, 2866.

During the month of June last, at the city of New York, at the time of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, special assemblies of the Grand Council were held for the purpose of drawing particular attention to the exemplification of the Super-Excellent Master's Degree. Sickness detained me from the first appointed of these assemblies. And the report at the second occasion only resulted in recommending to the consideration of Subordinate Councils a Ritual corresponding substantially with that carefully prepared and adopted in the jurisdiction of Massachusetts. I should regard it as judicious to continue this recommendation, and to provide for the submission of a complete Ritual at our next Annual Assembly.

I have constituted and dedicated Palmyra Council, No. 26, and installed its officers on the 20th day of February, 2866. I have since—*i. e.*, on the 8th ult.—visited and presided in the same Council, and installed T. Ill. Comp. Ennis, who still imparts to this Body his own zeal and discretion, and renders one of our most recent organizations an emulous competitor for the distinction of the experienced and most skillful.

I have also enjoyed the pleasure of installing our distinguished Comp. J. B. Chaffee as T. Ill. Master of Binghampton Council, No. 24. Yielding to repeated and special request, I have also visited Central City Council, No. 13, and presided therein during the reception and greeting of ten candidates. Under the auspices of Freemasonry, fostered and promoted as it is at this Central

City, by brethren and Companions who honor its moral instruction and are resolved to maintain the degrees in their just sequence, there may be some transient languor in the exhibition of the work; but it is only the intermission of caution and circumspection. It is not the abatement of fervency and zeal. The assemblies may be for a time less frequent, but it is for the purpose of scrutinizing well the material that is to serve the valuable uses of the secret vault. There are other portions of our jurisdiction where the gradual unfoldings of our Masonic mysteries are either neglected or involved in deplorable confusion. The temporary custody over the Royal and Select Degrees in a former period by Chapters was the occasion of vague, imperfect and unworthy views as to their relation in the Order of Masonic Lights. The instruction was communicated unintelligently by those who neither appreciated the source of the authority, under which they acted, nor the crowning symbolism of the Ancient Craft with which our Cryptic trust is properly invested. There is consequently, a remnant of those, who have faithfully and gloriously labored in the Royal Arch that retain the traditional misconception of Cryptic Masonry. The lustre of their career gives emphasis to their indifference. Their high attainments in Capitular knowledge and their unblemished record in all that befits the citizen or the candidate for immortality, constrain us to silence. But that noble generation descends to the vault where the Almighty Master holds in reserve the mysteries of His resurrection power. As they vanish from the earthly companionship, that bewildering confusion of authority will be no more than the recollection of history, and the salutary adjustments of Masonic degrees will be universally and unhesitatingly accepted, never again to be disturbed, we hope, until the Supreme Architect of the Universe shall utter throughout the darkness of humanity His all-compelling fiat, "Let there be light."

Information has also reached me of a more serious evil, which militates against the just dignity of our degrees and summons us to vigilance. There is reason to apprehend that either in wanton defiance of our discipline, or inculpable oblivion of obligations, Companions have received the light of the vault only to disseminate it in unauthorized forms, without due examination to improper persons, in violation of our regulations and their own promises. Rituals thus travestied are but mutilated and disfigured caricatures of our beautiful system. Laws thus distained claim their vindication. Companions thus recreant disgrace the sacred harmony which meets the novice at the door of the Entered Apprentice Lodge. It behooves us to scrutinize thoroughly the claimant of Cryptic privilege, and know whether he has been thus clandestinely foisted upon our acceptance. And it devolves upon us, with mortification and yet with fidelity, to warn our sister Grand Jurisdic-

tions that such treachery breathes its infection around us. Companions, let us heed the lesson of our art; there is no true mercy where justice is unknown. Rise to some conception of the dignity that should grace the summit of the ancient Craft. Be faithful to the trust we guard, and its unsullied splendor will shed honor upon us who prize and who guard it.

The M. P. appointed as Committee on Address, R. Ill. Comp. R. G. Millard and T. Ill. Comps. J. W. Morange and William B. Crandall.

The Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer presented the following Reports, which were, on motion, received and referred to the Finance Committee.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

Your Grand Recorder would offer the following Annual Report:

Received during last Annual Assembly.....	$412.62
Received for 30 Seals on Certificates.....	15.00
Received March 1, for Dispensation, Utica Council	20.00
Received June 5th, for Warrant, Batavia Council, No. 27.....	10.00
Received Jan. 22, '67, for Dispensation.....	1.00
	$458.62

All of which has been paid to the Grand Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

New York, February 5th, 1867.

The undersigned Finance Committee respectfully report, that they have examined the above report and find the same correct.

H. E. Gilbert,
H. W. McIntire, } Committee.
W. F. Edington,

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York.

Your Grand Treasurer would beg leave to present the following Annual Report:

To Balance cash in hand, February 5, 1866	$257.77
To Cash Received Feb. 7, 1866, from Grand Recorder	153.72
To Cash Received May 28	258.90
To Cash Received June 28, 1867	46.00
To Interest	10.81
	$727.20

Cr. 1866.

Febry. 7. By Cash paid Warrants from No. 49 to 70 inclusive	$287.20	
March 28. By Corlies and Macy, printing	124.29	
		411.49
Balance on hand		$315.71

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY F. L. BUNTING, Grand Treasurer.

New York, February 5th, 1867.

The undersigned Finance Committee hereby, respectfully report that we have examined the above report and find the same correct.

H. E. Gilbert,
H. W. McIntire,
W. F. Edington, } Committee.

The M. P. appointed the following Standing Committees:

On Credentials and Returns:—R. P. John Hoole, R. P. Josiah Shove, T. Ill. Joseph B. Chaffee.

On Warrants and Dispensations:—R. P. Daniel Wolff, T. Ill. Wm. B. Crandall, R. I. George B. Baker.

On Constitutions and By-Laws:—R. P. James McCredie, R. P. John D. Williams, T. I. Lorenzo Lombard.

On Grievances and Appeals:—R. Ill. R. G. Millard, T. Ill. D. F. Day, R. Ill. Thomas L. Root.

On Finance:—T. Ill. Henry E. Gilbert, Ill. H. W. McIntire, Ill. W. F. Edington.

On motion, it was unanimously

Resolved, That R. P. Seymour H. Stone be received as the Representative of Central City Council, No. 13, the Master having been called away from the city unexpectedly.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented the following report, which was, on motion, received and accepted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

The Committee on Credentials and Returns report that the following representatives are entitled to seats in this Grand Council.

Columbian, No. 1.....Daniel Wolff.
Pennell, No. 2.....John Hoole.
Brooklyn, No. 4.....John Sheville.
Adelphic, No. 7.....Henry E. Gilbert.
Eureka, No. 8.....Geo. W. Baker.
Central City, No. 13.....S. H. Stone.
Bloss, No. 14.....Geo. Babcock.
Bruce, No. 15.....Warner H. McCoy.
Southern Tier, No. 16.....H. W. McIntire.
Buffalo, No. 17.....James McCredie.
King Hiram, No. 18.....L. Lombard.
Doric, No. 19..Wm. B. Crandall and F. H. Marshall.
Keystone, No. 20.....D. F. Day.
De Witt Clinton, No. 22.....J. W. Morange.
Ontario, No. 23.....W. F. Edington.
Binghampton, No. 24.....J. B. Chaffee.
Dunkirk, No. 25...F. F. Driggs and W. H. Wyman.
Palmyra, No. 26.....Thomas L. Root.
Batavia, No. 27.....Homer Bostwick.

John Hoole,
J. Shove,
J. B. Chaffee, } Committee.

The Committee on Unfinished Business reported that there had been no business of that kind left over from the last session to come before them, and on motion, the report was received and the Committee was discharged.

The Committee on the Grand Master's Address presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and its recommendations were adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. Masters:

The Committee to whom was referred the Address of the M. P. G. M. respectfully recommend, that so much of the same as refers to Dispensations be referred to the Committee on Warrants; and so much as refers to Ritual, to the Grand Council and Grand Lecturer.

Royal G. Millard,
Jas. W. Morange, } Committee.
W. B. Crandall,

The following Amendments to the Constitution were offered and, on motion, they were unanimously adopted.

By R. P. Comp. J. D. Williams: Amend Section 15, of Article I, by striking out the words, "For Registry Fee, 50 cents," and inserting "75 cents," so that when amended, the sub-division will read as follows: "For every Companion received and greeted in a Subordinate Council, 75 cents."

By T. Ill. Wm. B. Crandall: That Section 5, of Article II, be stricken out.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented the following Report:

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully ask leave to report that they have had the pleasure of perusing the printed proceedings of the following Grand Councils, since our Annual Assembly of Anno Dep. 2866, viz.: Arkansas, for 1860-1866; Alabama, for 1865-'66; Connecticut, for 1866; Iowa, for 1866; Illinois, for 1866; Indiana, for 1865-'66; Louisiana, for 1866; Maine, for 1866; Michigan, for 1865; Missouri, for 1866; Rhode Island, for 1860-'61, '62, '63, '64, '65, '66.

Your Committee sincerely regret that so few of our Sister Grand Councils have been heard from through the medium of their

printed transactions. It is gratifying, however, to learn from the proceedings of such as have been received, that Cryptic Masonry in such jurisdictions is firmly established, is winning its way to favor and renown; and that it numbers on its rolls of workmen the names of many of the most brilliant and polished blocks of the great Masonic fabric of the United States of America.

Indeed, the Cryptic section of that great fabric is now a prominent and important connection beween the Capitular and Chivalric, which, collectively with the Symbolic as the base, form our cherished Tabernacle, which has so proudly stood the test of time, and passed through so many fiery ordeals. * * * * *

[To the proceedings before named, we invite your attention.]

The following resolution was offered by Ill. Comp. W. H. McCoy, which was, on motion, received and referred to the Finance Committee:

Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be paid the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

A petition from Pennell Council, No. 2, was presented asking to have the name of the Council changed to Union Council, No. 2; and, on motion, it was received and referred to the Committee on Warrants and Dispensations.

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and its recommendations were adopted.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Warrants beg leave to report that they have duly considered the application for a Warrant to be granted to certain Royal and Select Masters for a Council now under Dispensation, to be located in the city of Utica, and known by the name of Utica Council, No. 28, and would recommend that the application meet the approval of the Grand Council. That they have also considered the application of Pennell Council to have its name changed to that of Union Council, No. 2, and recommend that the application be granted.

D. Wolff,
Geo. W. Baker, } Committee.
W. B. Crandall,

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the name of Rees G. Williams, be inserted as T. Ill. Master in the Warrant for Utica Council, No. 28, and that the M. P. Grand Master be empowered to fill the blanks left for the names of the second and third officers.

The Grand Council then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result:

M. P. and Rev. C. H. Platt was re-elected..Grand Master.
R. P. John Hoole was re-elected..Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. James McCredie was re-elected..Grand Ill. Master.
R. P. J. D. Williams.....Grand P. C. of the W.
R. P. Josiah Shove .....Grand Recorder.
M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting.....Grand Treasurer.

The first five officers were duly installed by M. P. Comp. Bunting, and the Grand Treasurer was installed by the M. P. Grand Master.

The M. P. Grand Master made the following appointments:

R. P. Daniel Wolff.....Grand C. of the G.
T. Ill. Joseph B. Chaffee.....Grand Marshal.
Rev. J. C. Webster.....Grand Chaplain.
P. F. F. Driggs.....Grand Steward.
P. Amasa Fuller .....Grand Sentinel.

All of whom were duly installed by the Grand Master.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals and on Constitutions and By-Laws reported that there had been no business brought before them.

The Committee on Finance presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and its recommendations were adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State New York:

Your Finance Committee would report that they have examined the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer, and find them correct.

Your Committee would further report, that in view of the state of the funds of this Grand Council, the amount now on hand, including the receipts for the present session, being more than one thousand dollars, would recommend that the sum of ten cents per

mile, by the usual traveled route, be paid to the Grand Officers and Representatives in this Grand Council.

They would also recommend that the sum of one hundred dollars be paid to the Grand Recorder for his services the past year, and ten dollars to the Grand Sentinel.

They also recommend the adoption of the resolution appropriating twenty-five dollars to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. They further recommend an appropriation of fifty dollars to defray expenses attending the visit of the R. P. G. Lecturer to the Grand Council at Boston, for the purpose of obtaining and transmitting to the Most P. G. M. of this Grand Council the ritual of the degree of Super-Excellent Master.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. E. Gilbert,)
H. W. McIntire,) Committee.
W. F. Edington,)

On motion, the Grand Recorder was empowered to have 250 copies of the Proceedings and of the amended Constitutions printed, to be sent in the usual manner to the Subordinate Councils and to our sister Grand Councils.

The M. P. Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

On Foreign Correspondence:—T. Ill. Charles Craig, R. P. John D. Williams, R. P. James McCredie.

On Unfinished Business:—R. P. Seymour H. Stone, R. P. James McCredie, Ill. W. H. McCoy.

Special Committee on Finance:—R. P. Daniel Wolff, T. Ill. John B. Harris, T. Ill. H. E. Gilbert.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council be held in the City of Albany, on the first Tuesday of February, A. Dep. 2868, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M.

No further business appearing, the Minutes were read and approved and the Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

MONEYS RECEIVED DURING THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Columbian Council, No. 1	$49.00
Pennell Council, No. 2	32.93
Brooklyn Council, No. 4	46.25
Adelphic Council, No. 7	127.37
Eureka Council, No. 8	12.75
Central City Council, No. 13	37.50
Bloss Council, No. 14	101.38
Bruce Council, No. 15	32.97
Southern Tier Council, No. 16	40.00
Buffalo Council, No. 17	51.82
King Hiram Council, No. 18	20.25
Doric Council, No. 19	55.00
Keystone Council, No. 20, two years	21.45
De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22	34.25
Ontario Council, No. 23	26.75
Binghampton Council, No. 24	22.25
Dunkirk Council, No. 25	45.00
Palmyra Council, No. 26	13.76
Batavia Council, No. 27	20.50
Utica Council, U. D	7.50
" " Balance on Warrant	10.00
	$808.68

Abstract of Annual Returns of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Council.	Town.	County.	Received and greeted during the year	Affiliated	Dimitted	Stricken from roll	Died	Present number members
1 Columbian	New York	New York	22	...	...	...	...	73
2 Union	New York	New York	15	...	...	...	...	48
4 Brooklyn	Brooklyn	Kings	19	...	...	...	3	66
7 Adelphic	New York	New York	19	...	4	...	1	229
8 Eureka	Greene	Chenango	1	...	...	3	...	16
13 Central City	Syracuse	Onondaga	10	...	...	...	...	60

14	Bloss	Troy	Rensselaer	40	...	2	.....	2	155
15	Bruce	Lockport	Niagara	11	...	6	.....	...	50
16	Southern Tier	Elmira	Chemung	12	...	1	3	1	71
17	Buffalo	Buffalo	Erie	12	...	6	.....	...	93
18	King Hiram	Auburn	Cayuga	1	...	2	1	....	39
19	Doric	Rochester	Monroe	12	...	...	.....	....	104
20	Keystone	Buffalo	Erie	7	...	...	.....	....	25
22	DeWitt Clinton	Albany	Albany	10	1	...	.....	....	52
23	Ontario	Geneva	Ontario	15	...	...	.....	....	31
24	Binghamton	Binghamton	Broome	5	...	...	.....	....	40
25	Dunkirk	Dunkirk	Chautauqua	30	4	...	.....	....	44
26	Palmyra	Palmyra	Wayne	6	...	...	.....	....	22
27	Batavia	Batavia	Genesee	8	...	...	.....	....	31
28	Utica	Utica	Oneida	5	...	...	.....	....	17
	U. D. Watertown	Watertown	Jefferson	.....	...	...	.....	....	9
				260	5	21	7	7	1275

Officers of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Number and Name.	Master.	Deputy Master.	P. C. of the W.	Recorder.
1 Columbian	Daniel Wolff	J. H. Laban	Isaac Simonson	William J. Surre
2 Union	Moses E. Wilson	Robert Stephens	Cicero I. Sims	H. C. Parke
4 Brooklyn	J. A. Shepard	J. W. Osborn	J. B. Cowles	Richard Sharpe
7 Adelphic	H. E. Gilbert	J. T. Martin	William Davis	E. M. Alford, Jr.
8 Eureka	Aug. Willard	George W. Baker	A. H. Smith	R. P. Barnard
13 Central City	Geo. W. Harwood	E. H. Brown	A. J. Goffe	D. Remington
14 Bloss	Geo. Babcock	R. W. Roberts	J. H. Goodsell	Edward B. Cox
15 Bruce	Charles Craig	Jason Collier	W. H. McCoy	George W. Hall
16 Southern Tier	John D. Williams	H. W. McIntire	Edwin Spencer	G. D. Paterson
17 Buffalo	James McCredie	John Briggs	John Diller	S. M. Evry
18 King Hiram	George W. Brown	J. H. Hoskins	A. E. Lytle	J. C. White
19 Doric	Chas. W. Watson	Wm. B. Crandall	F. H. Marshall	George W. Ludlow
20 Keystone	David F. Day	E. L. Chamberlayne	S. M. Ratcliffe	William Fleming
22 DeWitt Clinton	Jas. W. Morange	W. H. Van Allen	J. A. Sumner	Charles T. Platto
23 Ontario	W. P. Durrant	John S. Schoon	H. W. McGonegal	W. N. Smith
24 Binghamton	Josph B. Chaffee	C. Marvin	D. R. Grant	Geo. W. Seymour
25 Dunkirk	F. F. Driggs	Wm. H. Wyman	A. H. Libby	Otis Corbett
26 Palmyra	Elijah Ennis	Thomas Root	M. C. Finley	V. Nims
27 Batavia	Daniel Seaver	W. F. Bliss	A. R. Warner	Wm. B. Pickett
28 Utica	Rees G. Williams			
U. D. Watertown	Lysander H. Brown			

Address of the Grand Masters and Grand Recorders

Of the Grand Councils of the United States

State.	Grand Master.	Address.	Grand Recorder.	Address.
Alabama	Rev. E. V. LeVert	Marion	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery
Arkansas	Elbert H. English	Little Rock	Wm. D. Blocher	Little Rock
Connecticut	Eli S. Quintard	New Haven	John W. Paul	Waterbury
Florida	Thomas Heyward	Tallahassee	John B. Taylor	Tallahassee
Georgia	P. T. Schley	Savannah	B. B. Russell	Augusta
Illinois	James A. Hawley	Dixon	H. G. Reynolds	Springfield
Indiana	Thomas Newby	Cambridge City	William Hacker	Indianapolis
Iowa	Horace Tuttle	Dubuque	W. B. Langridge	Muscatine
Kentucky	P. Swigert	Frankfort	A. G. Hodges	Frankfort
Louisiana	Samuel M. Todd	New Orleans	Gus. Sontag	New Orleans
Maine	Oliver Gerrish	Portland	Ira Berry	Portland
Massachusetts	Wm. P. Anderson	Boston	Solon Thornton	Boston
Michigan	S. L. Dart	Coldwater	Oliver Bourke	Detroit
Mississippi	William Cothran	Carrollton	R. W. T. Daniel	Jackson
Missouri	A. O'Sullivan	St. Louis	George Frank Gonley	St. Louis
New Jersey	John P. Nelson	Trenton	Thos. J. Corson	Trenton
New York	Rev. C. H. Platt	Binghamton	Josiah Shove	Box 3737, New York
Ohio	Charles C. Kiefer	Dayton	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati
Pennsylvania	Alfred Creigh	Washington	H. C. L. Creelius	Reading
Rhode Island	Jas. H. Armington	Providence	Henry M. Rawson	Providence
South Carolina	Albert G. Mackey	Charleston	H. W. Shroeder	Charleston
Tennessee	J. Huntington	Nashville	Charles A. Fuller	Nashville
Texas			A. Neil	Galveston
Vermont	E. S. Dana	New Haven	J. B. Hallenbeck	Burlington
Wisconsin	H. L. Palmer	Milwaukee	W. T. Palmer	Milwaukee

GRAND COUNCIL—ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Grand Council Room,

Albany, Tuesday, Feb. 4, A. D. 1868, A. Dep. 2868.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, convened in Annual Assembly in the City of Albany, in accordance with a resolution of the last Annual Assembly, on Tuesday, February 4th, A. D. 1868, A. Dep. 2868. Present:

M. P. Charles H. Platt.....Grand Master.
R. P. John Hoole.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. James McCredie .....Grand Illus. Master.
R. P. John D. Williams....Grand P. C. of the Work.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
M. P. H. F. L. Bunting.....Grand Treasurer.
R. P. Daniel Wolff.....Grand C. of the G.
R. P. Joseph B. Chaffee.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster.....Grand Chaplain.
P. F. F. Driggs.....Grand Steward.
P. Amasa Fuller.....Grand Sentinel.
R. P. Augustus Willard.....Past Deputy Master.
R. P. Seymour H. Stone.....Past Deputy Master.
T. Ill. E. A. Cooper.....Past Master.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Columbian, No. 1,
Pennell, No. 2
Brooklyn, No. 4,
Adelphic, No. 7
Eureka, No. 8,
Central City, No. 13,
Bloss, No. 14,
Bruce, No. 15,
Southern Tier, No. 16,
Buffalo, No. 17,
King Hiram, No. 18,
Doric, No. 19,
Keystone, No. 20,
De Witt Clinton, No. 22,
Ontario, No. 23,
Binghampton, No. 24,
Dunkirk, No. 25,
Palmyra, No. 26,
Batavia, No. 27,
Utica, No. 28,

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form.

On motion of R. P. Comp. Hoole, it was

Resolved, That all Companion Select Masters in good standing be invited to take seats in this Grand Council.

The Grand Master then delivered the following Annual Address:

THE ADDRESS.

COMPANIONS:—We enter again the sanctuary of our annual resort under circumstances of eminent favor. Better auspices than for the past seven years are hailed by the cryptic fraternity throughout our national domain, and for our own grand jurisdiction the era of greatest harmony and of most assured stability is inaugurated.

If we have any persuasion that the Most Holy One, in His supreme wisdom, has cherished the ancient craft for the sake of the traditions faithfully preserved therein, we shall need no argument to convince us that the result in which we now rejoice is due to His sovereign command and tends to promote His providential purposes. As reverential bearers of His word, and as earnest worshippers of His adorable perfections, who searcheth the heart and looks for the ark of His covenant in the secret vault of our inmost affections, let us treasure here the memory of the great things He has done for us already. He delights in order; He compels every thing to fall into the arrangements of a system; He brings even wandering comets to the governing focus of their orbits; He subjects every production of His wonderful hand to "a law which shall not be broken."

We, therefore, recognize the sovereignty of His order-loving will in the conciliation, symetry, subordination, fraternal concord and unforced assimilation which, by degrees, have been more and more characterizing the once sundered, inharmonious and disunited elements of cryptic Masonry.

It now remains for us, in the exercise of our great trust, to assisst in such measures as are calculated to promote this sentiment of concord, and to perpetuate the unity as we promote the purity of the craft. With these ends in view there are two propositions which I am constrained to commend to your favorable consideration.

In the first place, it is an occasion of needless confusion that so great discrepancies should appear in the Ritual of the Cryptic Degrees, as now used in our jurisdiction. This discrepancy relates to two particulars in our formularies. There is in them an unnecessary, almost a wanton deviation from capitular phraseology, which embarrasses without illuminating our work. The

advanced symbolism of our degrees demands, of course, some modifications of phrase from that employed in the Royal Arch. But it is unwise to multiply these forms of language beyond the demands of a rigorous necessity. Such has been the mode of disseminating cryptic knowledge, that Rituals slightly variant are found in our jurisdiction exhibiting equal claims to authenticity and authority. Our careful and discriminating Grand Lecturer has been confronted with this perplexity, and has scarcely presumed to define what was indispensable where so much was ambiguous.

For the purpose of producing uniformity in that which presupposes the surrender of each preference to the benefit of the whole, it is desirable that our formularies should be revised and an authentic ritual defined as of paramount authority. In this revision I contemplate no transposition of the degrees, and no elimination of what constitutes the substances either of the drama or of the obligation. I am averse to any such theoretic tampering with what is now so valuable and instructive, because it represents a historic growth and the processes of intellectual development. The idioms of fact cannot change, but the idioms of language follow the mutations of our race.

Another proposition pertains not only to ourselves, but to our fellowship with paralell grand jurisdictions throughout our nation. The order of conferring degrees, the philosophy on which rituals are constructed, the traditions embraced in their mysteries, the titles given to their officers, the signs by which brethren of the same degree may be discerned, are so diverse that dissonance and contrariety, rather than unanimity and amity, seem to pervade this highest presentation of the Ancient York Rite. It is accordingly proposed that the several Grand Councils should depute delegates from each to meet as peers in friendly consultation, and devise some means of reconciling these discrepancies.

This assemblage is to assume neither the name nor function of a legislative body. It is no association, nor General Grand Council, nor self-continuing and perpetual organization; it is merely deliberative and recommendatory. The objection to the erection of a general legislative jurisdiction is not pertinent to this proposition. Its simple purpose is to convene at St. Louis in September next, simultaneously with the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment, one or more representatives from each Grand Council, who can then compare views, and at their discretion carry back recommendations to their constituents. If it is the pleasure of this Grand Council to co-operate in this movement, I recommend that one or more delegates be appointed, and that notification of our action be immediately communicated to sister jurisdictions. It is difficult to conjure up any phantom of alarm in a proposition

so moderate in all its projected powers, and indorsed by such an eminent and judicious pattern to the craft as the accomplished chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee in the Grand Council of Maine.

The appointment of Grand Lecturer was, after deliberate consultation, conferred upon our esteemed Companion, Jackson H. Chase. He has proceeded to fulfill his duty under the embarrassments and hesitancies involved in the facts to which I have adverted. I trust that measures will now be initiated to facilitate the Grand Lecturer in imparting a ritual undisputed and unobjectionable, and thus to produce a desirable uniformity in our work.

I take pleasure in reporting that I have granted Dispensations during the year for four new Councils—at Cohoes, at Owego, at Poughkeepsie and at Lyons, all of which, except the last, will be applicants to you for warrants.

To you, Companions, am I indebted for renewed and flattering testimonials of your regard and confidence. With some of you I have labored for years in the effort to preserve against contamination and against contempt these serene peaks of Masonic privilege. Like the Jungfrau and the Monte Rosa, that lift their cold summits in the midst of the European arena, do our Royal and Select Mysteries stand among the populous degrees of lower attainments. Cold breath salutes them, mantles of obscurity wrap them; but they greet the first rays of the East—they feed the rills that irrigate the plain. I surrender to you the authority that supports them, with the admonition that you suffer neither oblivion nor reproach to pass upon this grand custodian of sacred and impressive traditions.

On motion, the Address was referred to a Committee of three to apportion the matters therein contained to the several committees.

The G. M. appointed as said Committee: R. P. and Rev. John G. Webster, T. Ill. John T. Martin, T. Ill. George Babcock.

The Grand Recorder presented the following Annual Report, which was received and referred to the Finance Committee:

To the M. P. Grand Council of the State of New York:

Your Grand Recorder offers the following as his Annual Report:

Received during the last Annual Assembly		$808.68
March 27.	Received for Dispensation, Mohawk Council	20.00
Oct. 30.	Received for Dispensation, Owego Council	20.00
Dec. 10.	Received for Dispensation, King Solomon's Council	20.00
Jan. 21.	Received for Dispensation, Lyons Council	20.00
For Fourteen Seals on Certificates		7.00
		$895.68

All of which has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following Annual Report, which was, on motion, received and referred to the Finance Committee.

To the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

The Grand Treasurer respectfully presents the following report of the financial affairs of the Grand Council:

	Feb. 5.	To Cash, Balance on hand....	$315.71	
	Feb. 5.	To Cash, Received of Grand Recorder	655.30	
1868.	Feb. 12.	To Cash, Received of Grand Recorder	153.38	
	Feb. 4.	To Cash, Received of Grand Recorder	87.00	
		To Interest	17.48	
				$1,228.87
1867.	Feb. 5.	By Cash paid Warrants from No. 71 to 99, (omitting 73—77 and 84)....	$655.30	
	May 28.	By Cash paid, No. 100, Printing	244.34	
				899.64
		Balance Cash on hand.....		$329.23

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY F. L. BUNTING, Grand Treasurer.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and referred to the Committee on Grand Master's Address; and, on motion, the Committee were allowed further time to write out the details more fully.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence would respectfully represent that they are in receipt of the printed transactions of the following named Grand Councils, viz.: Connecticut, for 1867; Indiana, for 1867; Kentucky, for 1866; Louisiana, for 1867; Maine, for 1867; Massachusetts, for 1867; Michigan, for 1867; Mississippi, for 1867; Ohio, for 1867; Pennsylvania, for 1867; Rhode Island, for 1866; Tennessee, for 1866-'67; Vermont, 1867; and New Brunswick, for 1867. The last named your Committee have the pleasure of announcing as a new member that has been added to the Cryptic galaxy composed of Grand Councils, it having been organized and instituted August 15th, 1867, at St. John's, New Brunswick, in the Dominion of Canada, under the auspices of the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of Maine.

We trust that the M. P. Grand Council of the State of New York will recognize and welcome this new member to a cordial fellowship, and be foremost in proceedings tending towards a speedy "annexation of this newly acquired territory." Several of the before-named Grand Councils having held their annual assemblies quite late in the season of 1867, the transmission of their proceedings to the hands of your Committee has, as a consequence, been somewhat tardy. Your Committee, therefore, found it utterly impracticable to make a thorough review of said proceedings as preparatory to a well digested and extended report thereon, as they desire, in time to be presented at this Annual Assembly. They therefore ask the indulgence of the Grand Council, and pray that sufficient time may be granted to enable them to make a detailed report which, when completed, will be placed in the hands of the R. P. Grand Recorder to be incorporated with the transactions of the present Assembly, preparatory to being placed in the hands of the printer for publication.

Your Committee would take this occasion to call the attention of the M. P. Grand Council of the State of New York to the propriety of initiating a movement tending towards arrangements for a General Convention to be composed of delegates from the several Grand Councils of the United States, to be holden at the same time and place of the coming Triennial Conclave of the General Grand Encampment of the United States; at which General Convention might properly and profitably be discussed the propriety of uniting in a combined effort to induce the General Grand En-

campment, through its representatives, to enact and create a general statute or regulation making it an imperative prerequisite thereafter that all applicants for the Orders of Knighthood within its jurisdiction shall be in legitimate possession of the several Degrees of Cryptic Masonry, in addition to the present existing prerequisites.

Your Committee are strongly impressed with the importance of such a movement and agitation, the result of which, if crowned with success, would be to produce a conjoint system of uniformity throughout the United States in the conferring of the several Degrees of Symbolic, Capitular and Cryptic Masonry, by systematic grade and rank, as preparatory to eligibility for the Orders of Knighthood, thus enabling those, who have attained the latter honors to pass the ordeal of examination when application is made for admission to the "Council Chamber" or the "Asylum" when sojourning among strangers, as well in the State of New York as in each or any of the other States of the American Union.

It is not within the province of the duties of your Committee to discuss the merits of this subject in detail at this time; but they trust that the Grand Council will deem it of sufficient importance to take it into consideration, and carefully weigh it in all its bearings, and "good may come out of it."

Respectfully submitted,

C. Craig,
John D. Williams,
James McCredie,

Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

Since submitting the foregoing preliminary Report, your Committee have more carefully examined the proceedings of the beforenamed Grand Councils, and have found therein, many grains of wisdom, although, we must say, that in some instances, there was a preponderance of material somewhat akin to rubbish, that it became necessary to wander through before being able to obtain those grains.

Your Committee, with feelings of regret, find a want of uniformity in official titles existing in several Grand Jurisdictions, particularly in the titles of the first three Grand Officers; but as verbatim extracts from the transactions will convey the most vivid impression of the existence of those variations, we will take up verbatim the various openings of the Grand Bodies as given by them respectively, etc. * * * * *

The Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

Credentials and Returns:—R. P. James McCredie, R. P. Josiah Shove, T. Ill. Geo. W. Harwood.

Warrants and Dispensations:—R. P. Daniel Wolff, T. Ill. Wm. B. Crandall, T. Ill. O. W. Earle.

Constitutions and By-Laws:—R. P. Aug. Willard, R. P. John D. Williams, T. Ill. Rees G. Williams.

Grievances and Appeals:—T. Ill. David F. Day, T. Ill. F. A, Stevens, T. Ill. H. W. McIntire.

Finance:—R. P. John Hoole, R. P. Joseph B. Chaffee, T. Ill. H. M. Drake.

R. P. Comp. Wolff offered the following question, which was received and referred to the Committee on Constitutions:

Question of Jurisdiction of a Council:—Is it the nearest point by railway, or other conveyance, or by air-line distance?

Report on Credentials and Returns was read, and, on motion, it was received, and ordered to be spread upon the Minutes:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. Masters of the State of New York:

The Committee on Credentials and Returns report that the following Councils have made returns and paid dues, and their Representatives are entitled to seats in this Grand Council:

Columbian, No. 1.....Wm. S. Patterson, M.
Union, No. 2.....C. I. Sims, M.
Brooklyn, No. 4.....F. A. Stevens, M.
Adelphic, No. 7.....John T. Martin, M.
Eureka, No. 8 { .....Aug. Willard, M.
{ .....G. W. Baker, Dep. M.
Central City, No. 13.....G. W. Harwood, M.
Bloss, No. 14 { .....George Babcock, M.
{ .....R. W. Roberts, Dep. M.
Bruce, No. 15.....W. H. McCoy, P. C. of W.
Southern Tier, No. 16.....H. W. McIntire, M.
Buffalo, No. 17.....J. McCredie, M.
King Hiram, No. 18.....H. M. Drake, P. C. of W.
Doric, No. 19 { .....W. B. Crandall, M.
{ .....W. Shelp, Dep. M.
Keystone, No. 20.....D. F. Day, M.
De Witt Clinton, No. 22 { .....W. H. Van Allen, M.
{ .Chas. G. Cook, P. C. of W.
Ontario, No. 23.....W. E. Hayes, Proxy.

Binghampton, No. 24.....O. W. Earle, M.
Dunkirk, No. 25.....John S. Shaw, M.
Palmyra, No. 26.....M. C. Finley, M.
Batavia, No. 27.....J. M. Showerman, P. C. of W.
Utica, No. 28 { .....R. G. Williams, M.
.....A. R. McKenzie, P. C. of W.
Mohawk.....L. D. Sanborn, P C. of W.
Owego.....J. B. Judd, P. C. of W.
King Solomon { .....E. H. Parker, M.
.....G. F. Wiltsie, Dep. M.

Respectfully submitted,

J. McCredie,
Geo. W. Harwood, } Committee.
J. Shove,

The Committee on Unfinished Business presented the following Report, which was received and ordered to be spread upon the Minutes, and the Committee were discharged.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. Masters of the State of New York:

The Committee on Unfinished Business respectfully report that, by the commendable diligence of the members of the last Annual Assembly of this Grand Council, they have been deprived of all material for a Report, and therefore ask to be discharged.

Seymour H. Stowe,
James McCredie, } Committee.
W. H. McCoy,

The Committee on Constitutions and By-Laws presented a Report, which was received, and ordered to be spread on the Minutes:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. Masters of the State of New York:

The Committee on Constitutions and By-Laws to whom was referred the question proposed by R. P. Comp. Wolff, in reference to the jurisdiction of Subordinate Councils, respectfully report:

That they have duly and carefully considered the subject, and have arrived at the conclusion that, inasmuch, as no action by this Grand Council in reference to territorial jurisdiction of Subordinate Councils has been had, we believe that no injury to either Subordinate Councils or Cryptic Masonry has ever accrued by reason of such non-action.

Therefore, your Committee deem it unnecessary to answer the question proposed, one way or the other, believing it to be the part of wisdom to let "well enough alone," and that each and every Subordinate Council will regulate their mutual intercourse according to the true principle of Cryptic Masonry.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Willard,
John D. Williams, } Committee.
Rees G. Williams,

The Committee on Grand Master's Address presented their Report, which was received, and ordered spread on the Minutes, and the recommendations contained therein were adopted:

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York:

The Committee to whom was referred the Address of the M. P. Grand Master would recommend:

That so much thereof as refers to the ritual of the Cryptic Degrees, and uniformity of the same, be referred to the Committee on Constitutions and By-Laws.

With regard to the proposed meeting for conference at St. Louis, your Committee would heartily indorse the recommendation of the M. P. G. M., and would suggest that the Grand Council of this Grand Body be authorized and instructed to appoint a delegate for the purpose named. Concerning the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence your Committee find nothing therein which seems to require the action of this Grand Body, excepting the matter of a Convention to take into consideration the subject of making the Cryptic Degrees of Masonry a prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood. Your Committee would respectfully recommend the appointment of delegates to such Convention.

J. G. Webster,
Geo. Babcock, } Committee.
John T. Martin,

On motion, M. P. Charles H. Platt, Grand Master, was appointed the delegate to St. Louis, to meet with the delegates of other Grand Councils at that city, and also the convention at the same place, to devise measures for the Cryptic Degrees to be made a prerequisite to the Commandery Degrees; and he was further empowered to appoint a substitute to perform his duties.

The Committee on Warrants presented their Report, which was, on motion, received and adopted.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York:

The undersigned Committee on Warrants beg leave to recommend that a Warrant be granted to Comps. Edward H. Parker as Master, G. Frederick Wiltsie as D. M., and Alfred Smith as P. C. of W., to establish a Council of R. and S. Masters, in Poughkeepsie, and Newburgh, alternately, to be named King Solomon Council, instead of Union Council, under which name a Dispensation was granted, and that said Council be numbered 31.

That a Warrant be granted to Comps. James Chadwick as Master, John H. Flower as D. M., and L. D. Sanborn as P. C. of W., to establish a Council of R. and S. M., in Cohoes, under the name of Mohawk Council, to be numbered 29.

That a Warrant be granted to Comps. Royal A. Allen as Master, Daniel E. Comstock as D. M., and Jasper B. Judd as P. C. of W., to establish a Council of R. and S. M. at Owego, to be named Owego Council, to be numbered 30.

That we have considered the application of certain Companions who were members of Hudson River Council, No. 21, for the revival of said Council, and we recommend that the same be granted, on condition that the back dues to this Grand Council be paid within sixty days from this date; and further, that a Dispensation be granted to said Companions, after they have complied with the before-mentioned condition, to hold an election for officers to serve until the next regular time of election.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

D. Wolff,
W. B. Crandall, } Committee.
O. W. Earle,

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals presented their Report, which was, on motion, received, and ordered spread upon the Minutes:

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Grievances and Appeals take great pleasure in reporting that no business whatever has been brought before them. In view of which harmonious state of affairs your Committee feel justified in offering their congratulation to the Grand Council.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

David F. Day,
Fred. A. Stevens, } Committee.
H. W. McIntire,

The Committee on Finance presented the following Report, which was received, and on motion, its recommendations were adopted:

To the M. P. G. Council of R. and S. Masters of the State of New York:

Your Finance Committee would report that they have examined the Reports of the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer, and find them correct.

Your Committee would further report that, in view of the state of the funds of this Grand Council—the amount now on hand, including the receipts for the present session, being more than eleven hundred dollars—would recommend that the sum of ten cents per mile, by the usual traveled route, be paid to the Grand Officers and Representatives of this Grand Council.

They would also recommend that the sum of one hundred dollars be paid to the Grand Recorder for his services of the past year, and ten dollars to the Grand Sentinel.

They also recommend that the sum of twenty-five dollars be paid to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Also that the M. P. Charles H. Platt, Representative to the General Assembly for the perfection of the Ritual, be authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Grand Council for the amount of expenses in attending said assembly.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

John Hoole,
J. B. Chaffee,
H. M. Drake,
} Committee on Finance.

The Grand Council then proceeded to the Annual Election of Officers, with the following result:

M. P. and Rev. Chas. H. Platt was re-elected.....Grand Master.
R. P. John Hoole was re-elected.....Dep. Grand Master.
R. P. James McCredie was re-elected.....Grand Ill. Master.
R. P. John D. Williams was re-elected.Grand P. C. of the W.
R. P. Josiah Shove, was re-elected.....Grand Recorder.
M. P. H. F. L. Bunting was re-elected.....Grand Treasurer.

The above officers were then duly installed.

The Grand Master then announced the following appointments:

R. P. Daniel Wolff.....Grand C. of the G.
R. P. Joseph B. Chaffee.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster..Grand Chaplain.
P. F. F. Driggs.....Grand Steward.
P. Amasa Fuller.....Grand Sentinel.

All of which were duly installed by the Grand Master.

The M. P. Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

Foreign Correspondence:—T. Ill. Charles Craig, P. F. F. Driggs, T. Ill. Elijah Ennis.

Unfinished Business:—R. P. S. H. Stone, T. Ill. C. L. Sims. T. Ill. W. H. McCoy.

The Committee on Constitutions and By-Laws presented a Supplementary Report, which was received, and the resolution embraced therein was adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. Masters of the State of New York:

The Committee on Constitutions and By-Laws, to whom was referred so much of the Address of the M. P. Grand Master as refers to the perfection of the Ritual of the Cryptic Masonry respectfully report:—That they have given the subject a careful consideration and have come to the conclusion that the Work and Lectures, as now promulgated by authority of this Grand Body, being so closely allied to the Rituals of Capitular Masonry, it is eminently proper that they should be so far revised as to conform in all essential particulars to the Ritual of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York. We, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed by the Grand Master, whose duty it shall be to revise, at the earliest practicable time, the Work and Lectures of this Grand Council. Said Committee shall at the conclusion of their labors, report the same to the Grand Master, and, upon his approval, such revised Work and Lectures shall be the standard of Work and Lectures of this Grand Council and promulgated accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Willard,
John D. Williams, } Committee.
Rees G. Williams,

On motion, the next Annual Assembly was ordered to be held in the City of Albany on the first Tuesday in February, 1869, at 7.30 P. M.

The Grand Master appointed as the Committee on Work and Lectures:—Jackson H. Chase, T. Ill. Jos. B. Chaffee, T. Ill. H. W. McIntire.

On motion, the Recorder was empowered to have 250 copies of the proceedings printed, to be sent, in the usual manner, to the Subordinate Councils, and to our sister Grand Councils.

The Grand Master appointed as Grand Lecturer, Comp. Jackson H. Chase.

Special Committee on Finance:—Daniel Wolff, John B. Harris, John T. Martin.

No further business appearing, the Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

RECEIPTS AT ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Columbian Council, No. 1	$46.25
Union Council, No. 2	34.25
Brooklyn Council, No. 4	37.00
Adelphic Council, No. 7	104.16
Eureka Council, No. 8	11.75
Central City Council, No. 13	29.75
Bloss Council, No. 14	95.10
Bruce Council, No. 15	26.21
Southern Tier Council, No. 16	40.25
Buffalo Council, No. 17	61.75
King Hiram Council, No. 18	19.50
Doric Council, No. 19	59.25
Keystone Council, No. 20	20.63
De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22	31.00
Ontario Council, No. 23	19.50
Binghampton Council, No. 24	29.00
Dunkirk Council, No. 25	54.50
Palmyra Council, No. 26	18.37
Batavia Council, No. 27	18.00
Utica Council, No. 28	12.78
Mohawk Council, U. D	24.93
Owego Council, U. D	18.50
King Solomon Council, U. D	10.00
	$822.43

Abstract of Annual Returns of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Council.	Town.	County.	Received and greeted during the year	Affiliated	Dimitted	Stricken from roll	Died	Present membership
1 Columbian	New York	New York	11	...	...	.....	1	83
2 Union	New York	New York	8	1	...	.....	...	57
4 Brooklyn	Brooklyn	Kings	8	1	1	9	1	64
7 Adelphic	New York	New York	11	1	8	44	2	187
8 Eureka	Greene	Chenango	5	...	...	.....	...	21
13 Central City	Syracuse	Onondaga	.....	...	...	.....	1	59
14 Bloss	Troy	Rensselaer	19	...	1	.....	1	172
15 Bruce	Lockport	Niagara	10	...	...	14	1	30

16	Southern Tier	Elmira	Chemung	5	...	1	...	...	75
17	Buffalo	Buffalo	Erie	17	...	1	...	...	108
18	King Hiram	Auburn	Cayuga	17	...	...	...	...	39
19	Doric	Rochester	Monroe	15	...	3	4	...	111
20	Keystone	Buffalo	Erie	6	2	5	...	...	35
22	DeWitt Clinton	Albany	Albany	5	...	...	...	...	57
23	Ontario	Geneva	Ontario	4	...	...	...	...	35
24	Binghamton	Binghamton	Broome	14	...	7	...	...	47
25	Dunkirk	Dunkirk	Chautauqua	36	2	1	...	...	81
26	Palmyra	Palmyra	Wayne	6	...	...	...	...	28
27	Batavia	Batavia	Genesee	4	...	1	...	...	34
28	Utica	Utica	Oneida	4	2	...	...	...	21
29	Mohawk	Cohoes	Albany	11	...	...	...	...	21
30	Owego	Owego	Tioga	7	...	...	...	...	18
31	King Solomon	Poughkeepsie	Dutchess	...	...	...	...	...	22
	U. D. Watertown	Watertown	Jefferson	...	...	...	...	...	...
	U. D. Lyons	Lyons	Wayne	...	...	...	...	...	...
				206	9	29	71	7	1405

Officers of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Number and Name.	Masters.	Deputy Masters.	P. C. of the W.	Recorders.
1 Columbian	Wm. S. Patterson	Philip H. Jacobs	Chas. Van Holland	William J. Surre
2 Union	Cicero I. Sims	Robert Stephens	Geo. W. Southwick	Henry C. Parke
4 Brooklyn	Fred'k A. Stevens	John W. Kelsey	Henry P. Blow	Richard Sharpe
7 Adelphic	John T. Martin	Edward B. Edwards	P. W. Ver Hoeven	E. M. Alford, Jr.
8 Eureka	Aug. Willard	George W. Baker	H. H. Smith	R. P. Barnard
13 Central City	Geo. W. Harwood	E. H. Brown	A. J. Goffe	D. Remington
14 Bloss	George Babcock	Randall W. Roberts	R. D. Starkweather	Edward B. Cox
15 Bruce	Charles Craig	Jason Collier	Warner H. McCoy	George W. Hall
16 Southern Tier	H. W. McIntire	Edwin Spencer	F. D. Randall	G. D. Parsons
17 Buffalo	James McCredie	John Briggs	Henry Smith	S. M. Evry
18 King Hiram	A. E. Lytle	D. W. Thorp	H. M. Drake	John C. White
19 Doric	Wm. B. Crandall	William Shelp	P. H. Smith	John Alexander
20 Keystone	David F. Day	E. S. Chamberlayne	S. M. Ratcliff	John C. Graves
21 Hudson River	Howard Cockburn	William M. Hayes	Robert Loughran	
22 DeWitt Clinton	Wm. H. Van Allen	Jackson A. Sumner	Charles G. Cook	Charles T. Platto
23 Ontario	W. P. Durant	John T. Scoon	H. Dennison	Willard N. Smith
24 Binghamton	Orlando W. Earle	George L. Sanger	Charles Butler	George W. Seymour
25 Dunkirk	John S. Shaw	A. S. Giles	B. Rathbun	M. D. Custing
26 Palmyra	Mark C. Finley	Josiah J. White	Timothy S. Jackson	John F. Strain
27 Batavia	Weeden S. Bliss	Albert R. Warner	Jas. M. Showerman	W. B. Pickett
28 Utica	Rees G. Williams	Theo. W. Bolles	A. R. McKenzie	Thos. J. Griffith
29 Mohawk	Joseph Chadwick	John H. Flower	L. D. Sanborn	J. M. Spencer
30 Owego	Royal A. Allen	Daniel E. Comstock	Jasper B. Judd	C. M. Haywood
31 King Solomon	E. H. Parker	G. Fred'k. Wiltsie	A. B. Smith	
U. D. Watertown				
U. D. Lyons	Joseph Walling	William G. David	Seth C. Searle	

Address of the Grand Masters and Grand Recorders

Of the Grand Councils of the United States

State.	Grand Master.	Address.	Grand Recorder.	Address.
Alabama	Rev. E. V. Levert	Marion	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery
Arkansas	H. Flanagin	Arkadelphia	W. D. Blocher	Little Rock
California			Laurence C. Owen	San Francisco
Connecticut	W. W. Lee	Meriden	J. K. Wheeler	Hartford
Florida			John B. Taylor	Tallahassee
Georgia			B. R. Russell	Augusta
Illinois	Daniel G. Burr	Paris	H. G. Reynolds	Springfield
Indiana	Thomas Pattison	Aurora	Wm. Hacker	Indianapolis
Iowa	W. E. Woodward	Burlington	W. B. Langridge	Muscatine
Kansas	Richard B. Rees	Leavenworth	Otto C. Beeler	Leavenworth
Kentucky	Philip Swigert	Frankfort	A. G. Hodges	Frankfort
Louisiana	J. Q. A. Fellows	New Orleans	Gustavus Sontag	New Orleans
Maine	E. P. Burnham	Saco	Ira Berry	Portland
Massachusetts	Chas. Edward Powers	Boston	Solon Thornton	Boston
Michigan	J. T. Hayden	Hillsdale	O. Bourke	Detroit
Mississippi	J. O. Lusher	Hernando	Oscar T. Keeler	Columbus
Missouri	Thos. E. Garrett	St. Louis	George Frank Gonley	St. Louis
New Hampshire			Horace Chase	Hopkinton
New Jersey	Chas. Bechtel	Trenton	Thos. J. Corson	Trenton
New York	Rev. C. H. Platt	Binghamton	Josiah Shove	Box 3737, New York
New Brunswick, Can.	Robert Marshall	St. John	D. R. Munro	St. Johns
North Carolina			Thos. B. Carr	Wilmington
Ohio	Charles Brown	Cincinnati	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati
Pennsylvania	Alfred Creigh	Washington	Christian Stolz	Reading
Rhode Island	James H. Arlington	Providence	Henry M. Ransom	Providence
South Carolina			H. W. Schroeder	Charleston
Tennessee	Wm. H. McLeskey	Newbern	Chas. A. Fuller	Nashville
Vermont	Squire Marcy	Hartland	John H. Hollenbeck	Burlington
Wisconsin			Wm. T. Palmer	Milwaukee

REPRESENTATIVES

NEAR SISTER GRAND COUNCILS.

James H. Drummond of Portland.....Grand Council of Maine.

Rev. Thomas D. Lawson of Bastrop..Grand Council of Louisiana.

Rev. Levi H. Corson of Jonesville.....Grand Council of Michigan.

Marcus Higginbotham of Jersey City...Gd. Council of New Jersey.

James J. Gould of Bridgeport.....Grand Council of Connecticut.

GRAND COUNCIL—ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Grand Council Room,

Albany, Feb. 2d, A. D. 1869, A. Dep. 2869.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York convened in Annual Assembly in the City of Albany, in accordance with a resolution of the last Annual Assembly, on Tuesday, February 2d, A. D., 1869, A. Dep. 2869. Present:

M. P. Charles H. Platt.....Grand Master.
R. P. John Hoole.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. James McCredie...Grand Illustrious Master.
R. P. John D. Williams....Grand P. C. of the Work.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
M. P. H. F. L. Bunting.....Grand Treasurer.
R. P. Daniel Wolff.....Grand C. of the Guard.
R. P. Joseph B. Chaffee.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster.....Grand Chaplain.
P. Amasa Fuller.....Grand Sentinel.
R. P. Seymour H. Stone.....Past Dep. Master.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Columbian, No. 1,
Union, No. 2.
Brooklyn, No. 4
Adelphic, No. 7
Bloss, No. 14,
Bruce, No. 15,
Southern Tier, No. 16,
Buffalo, No. 17,
King Hiram, No. 18.
Doric, No. 19,
Keystone, No. 20,
Hudson River, No. 21,
De Witt Clinton, No. 22,
Ontario, No. 23,
Binghampton, No. 24,
Dunkirk, No. 25,
Palmyra, No. 26,
Batavia, No. 27,
Mohawk, No. 29,
Owego, No. 30,
King Solomon, No. 31,
Chautauqua, U. D.
Olean, U. D.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form.

On motion of R. P. Comp. Hoole, it was

Resolved, That all Companion Select Masters in good standing be invited to take seats as visitors in this Grand Council.

The Grand Master then delivered the following Address:

THE ADDRESS.

HONORED AND WORTHY COMPANIONS:

A year closes which has witnessed the planting of the seeds of great results for the cause of Cryptic Masonry.

The Glorious Keeper of Israel, that hideth Himself, has manifested favor towards us in continued harmony, and in obvious advance towards a more intelligent and vigorous use of our moral instruction.

I would not assume that placidity and silent harmony are invariable tokens of genuine strength. Arbitrary and imperious authority may give temporary quietude; moody discontent may silently bide its time, and crafty treachery may simper in disguise while cruel plots are nursed. But none of these evils attend upon our prosperity. We hail it without a misgiving. No blemish of distrust impairs the perfectness of our thank-offering to Him who hath made peace in our time.

I am now prepared to surrender to you the high sovereignty with which your favor has repeatedly and indulgently honored me. I am grateful to every member of this Grand Body, not only for the honorable position in which I have been continued, but for the unswerving support, respect, encouragement and aid universally bestowed. I entreat you now, to dismiss me as a good and faithful servant, as a gentle and considerate Master. Let the noble emulation of others have its scope and its reward. Let the faithful perseverance of the good workman be permitted a wider effect by the trust of a higher station. Let the interest of new Companions be enlisted in our Grand Council work, and the very engagement will enlarge their sense of its importance and its labor. I will not dictate to you your suffrages, but content myself with acknowledging that your gifts of honor have more than filled my measure of merit, and that I desire to witness the lustres of office upon another brow.

The Report of duty discharged by my Right Puissant Deputy, regales us with the intelligence that Hudson River Council, No. 21, some time delinquent and dormant, has resumed active functions and determined to rekindle a light not to be quenched.

I have issued Dispensations for four new Councils. On the 1st of May for Chautauqua Council at Jamestown, Chautaqua County, and for Sandy Hill Council, at Sandy Hill, Washington County; on the 7th of December for Olean Council, at Olean, Chautauqua County, and on the 26th of January, 1869, for Wyoming Council, at Pike, Wyoming County.

Applications for Warrants will be made by several Councils under Dispensation. I trust that their evidence of proficiency and usefulness will find your favor.

The competent Committee to whom was referred the revision of our ritual for the three degrees conferred in Councils gave prompt and judicious attention to their serious duty. The result was reported to me, and our ritual now stands complete, accepted and promulgated by due authority, and in the possession of our efficient Grand Lecturer. I recommend recourse to him for full instruction. The object is uniformity in our exemplifications. We have approached the goal of a long journey and a patient, protracted effort. We have eschewed changes, but sought improvements. We have claimed that Cryptic Masonry must have its peculiarities, and yet ought to assimilate to the phraseology of the Chapter. Wanton diversities create needless confusion. Mere novelties of language are puerile. Language faithful to facts is wise. Our ritual now stands upon this reasonable basis, simpler in expression, easier to acquire, more conformable to Masonic usage, more dramatically impressive, in closer fidelity to our traditions, and bearing a desirable analogy to the work of other Grand Councils, almost identical with the rituals generally adopted. It is substantially what it always has been during the sixty-two years of our Grand Council history, and yet relieved of some inelegancies and inaccuracies, which time had stereotyped. Its exhibition has satisfied the critical scrutiny of other jurisdictions. They have indorsed its propriety, and it now gives promise of being the nucleus around which will crystallize a beautiful uniformity in Cryptic Masonry throughout our land.

By your confidence, I was delegated to the important mission of representing you in an assemblage of Grand Council delegates at St. Louis, simultaneously with the General Grand Encampment and General Grand Chapter. You had fortunately provided for substitution in the event of my inability to attend. It was my purpose to have participated in those deliberations. My preparations were made with that intention and desire, but sickness prostrated me and chained me to my place. The opportunity was lost, so far as my personal attendance was concerned. In yielding to this interdict I consulted wisely your own interest, and gratified myself by deputing our Right Puissant Grand Lecturer to represent us. He set forth upon very brief notice, and admirably accomplished all that could have been done in the prosecution of our own plans. To the particulars embraced in his report, submitted herewith, I would direct your especial attention.

The Convention for Cryptic Masonry, to represent the several Grand Jurisdictions, failed to affect all that was contemplated in the

original scheme. It did amount to a valuable conference of Companions and to a comparison of views and projects, from which each derived new animation, and all recieved the impress of the most intelligent and best illumined.

Two measures to be discussed and promoted in each jurisdiction were ventilated, and are returned from the centre to be pondered and cherished by each sovereign part.

It was first deemed opportune to create in each Grand Commandery, a disposition to restore and dignify the injured and discredited summit of Ancient Craft Masonry. That crown of the olden mystery is treasured in the secret recesses of the Council. Its legitimate custody, and, as experience has proved, its only immunity from dishonor, is there. The York Rite must droop into merited disparagement, unless it can consent to guard and foster the Royal and Select Degrees by Council obligations and by Grand Council symbolism. And chivalric Masonry abets and instigates this corrupting process, so long as it disdains the advice and scorns the accrediting of those who sustain the foundations of the Royal Arch, by keeping unimpaired the cryptic walls. Reform will come; it must come, or the Arch itself will degenerate. And one of those elements, not of wild and rash innovation, but of a consistent and happy restoration, will be the gradual conviction that the courteous Knight should be the well instructed Select Master. The day is not remote when this Grand Council will make its solemn appeal to the magnamity of the Templar, and his heart, emancipated from prejudices, will respond with the generous acknowledgment that the justice denied to our degrees shall henceforth be rendered. Another subject broached in those consultations of September last merits our notice. It is the rescue of the Royal and Select traditions from that patronage which is but the prelude of disaster—the usurped jurisdiction of Grand Chapters, or the temporary shelter of these degrees under capitular authority. I do not content myself with the merely evasive proposition that Chapters have now all they can well maintain, and that more incumbrances of labor would prove the occasion of neglected, slurred and imperfect labor. I omit all discussion of the right to encroach or of the need to absorb. Look we only at the mortifying fact that so meagre a proportion of cryptic light has been diffused throughout the territory which we occupy. Our theory would make Subordinate Councils as numerous and accessible as well ordered and substantial Chapters. We do not average one Council to five Chapters. Our Grand Lodge reports, in round numbers, 56,000 members. Of these, one out of five advances to the Chapter. But of Royal Arch Masons not one in seven attains membership in the Council. In Ohio, every fourth Royal Arch Mason is a Select Master. In Maine and Massachusetts, the same ratio

subsists, while in Mississippi, Indiana and Louisiana, about one-third of the Chapter membership is also admitted to cryptic privilege. Under this last proportion, the consequence is greater vigor in Capitular Masonry, and better material interested in the Council. Redeem New York from her humiliating apathy, and a hundred gates will adorn the walls of the city of our solemnities; 5,000 Companions will guard, as cryptic obligation teaches us to guard, the trust of the Royal Arch.

Our record cannot be completed without the melancholy recollection of our illustrious and lamented dead. The hurrying cavalcade of cares fills and oppresses our minds with the thought of living actors in these scenes and exactions of duty that levy their continued claim upon our powers. But we are not all action, nor all hope, though we delight to apply our faculties, and buoyantly rise in hope, buffeting the waves of present troubles. The benignity that endowed us for action and cheered us with imagination, has furnished us with memory, and erected that monumental power within us to be a conspicuous portion of the present life and the perpetual token of the life to come. It recalls the names, the images, the endowments, the virtues of those that thrilled in these excitements, or sustained these cares, as Companions in our watch over treasured symbols, and have anticipated our pursuing steps in closing the hours of labor and entering upon the eternity of refreshment. No human being is so degraded or insignificant, that the volume of the hidden life is despised by the All-seeing Eye. Every immortality is a particle in that Star of the Universe, the luminary of Providence. And yet many a sharer in this human lot vanishes away unheeded in his departing, as he was unobserved in his career. To the unforgetting memory of God we consign those who were, by the very gift of human nature, sublime, though the world knew them not. But our memorial is the tribute of due recollection for men distinguished and useful in their day, and named now with gratitude for their high qualities, and sorrow that in these earthly assemblies they are to be seen no more.

The first of these, our losses during the year, was that of our Right Puissant Past Deputy Grand Master, Dr. Augustus Willard, whose welcome presence honored our last Annual Assembly. He had filled in succession three offices in this Grand Council, enlisting with resolution and ardor in the effort to revive and honor Cryptic Masonry and disseminate its instruction among those worthy to receive it. Eureka Council owed its origin and period of brilliancy to his personal endeavors, and almost swoons into discouragement at his loss. The adhesion of our Right Puissant Grand Officer to the interest and support of the Cryptic Degrees was a most substantial aid in securing from the indifferent or the adverse, a proper respect for these neglected elements of Ancient

Craft Masonry. His eminence in the profession of medicine, wherein he was no sciolist or pretender, and his repute in the land as a generous and honorable citizen, gave importance to his example. Even this was enhanced by the personal character of the good man, devoted to a useful life, and employing in his beneficent work no other arts than those of rectitude, fidelity and courage. In the critical era of our Grand Council history, he was recognized as a valuable supporter. We derived additional advantages from his participation with us, because it was conceded that he had been deservedly eminent and influential in other Masonic relations. When the problem was to rescue our secret traditions from general oblivion, and to vindicate our jurisdiction against assumption and encroachment, his aid was worth ten thousand men. He knew all the legitimate functions of Capitular Masonry; he was versed in the fortunes of the craft during the terrific ordeal that confused and contaminated all degrees; and his unqualified support of the Cryptic authorities rallied the wavering, roused the despondent, and set the wheels of salutary progress in motion. The debt of recollection and grateful praise due to such a faithful associate we cheerfully rendered during the last few years of his declining vigor, nor shall we fail to renew our tributes now, that the sacredness of death veils the human form, and enrobes with recompense the released spirit.

Similar terms of commendation might be applied to our Right Puissant Companion, Dr. Bradley Parker. He died at his residence in Brooklyn on the 16th of the month just closed, an honored citizen, a zealous Mason, an upright and influential man, useful in his generation, and peaceful in his death. The office last filled by him in this Grand Council was that of Grand Illustrious Master, the third in our order of officers. On retiring from this station in 1861, he still retained his solicitude on our behalf, and persevered in his cordial attachment to institutions that serve to illumine and consolidate the virtuous and the worthy. We bow to the decree that has terminated his labors, with the fortitude that Masonry inculcates, and the submission that faith imparts.

The fatal shaft that has reached the ripe and declining, spared not the younger and immature. One of these has fallen in the flush of a promising manhood. It was the fortunate auspice of Owego Council to undertake its novitiate in Cryptic work under a youthful Master, who commanded the respect as he deserved the favor of discerning Companions clustered around him. Because I admire such uncorrupted integrity; because I feel the sacredness of such an undefiled conscience; because I honor fervent zeal the more when it heeds the restraints of moderation, I cannot suppress the sigh that attests the early fate of him, who will live upon our records as first entrusted with the Warrant of Owego

Council, a man of purity, piety and prudence, Royal A. Allen. Upon the embowered cliff that overlooks the Susquehanna sleeps his mortal frame; in serener heights, by the margin of the river of life, reposes his untroubled spirit.

Other Grand Jurisdictions have met their calamities. We cannot pause to linger upon such themes. Nor can we omit to mention the sorrow that has befallen our whole Masonic brotherhood in Tennessee. Companion Charles A. Fuller of Nashville, had for twenty years faithfully discharged the responsible duties of Grand Recorder. His associates place him upon record as one industrious in acquiring extraordinary Masonic knowledge, and brilliant in its communication by speech, and by pen, to the honor of the Craft and the credit of his own illustrious name. We are bound to him by the ties not only of common knowledge in the Cryptic science, but those of nativity. He was born at Springfield, Otsego County, in this State. We cannot claim the privilege of having witnessed his progress in Masonic usefulness, but we can bedew his dust with our tear of sympathy as we recollect that he sprung from our own soil, and earned the affection and esteem of our universal brotherhood.

> "Time cannot teach forgetfulness
> While Grief's full heart is fed by fame."

The dread catastrophe that hovers in the very atmosphere of Masonry is Death. But the Light that beams through the same atmosphere is Life—Life at the command of the Master—Life rising out of the ashes of the dead.

> "To die, is landing on some silent shore
> Where billows never beat, nor tempests roar;
> Ere well we feel the friendly stroke, 'tis o'er."

One of the ever honored patrons of Freemasonry has condensed its instruction into these few golden syllables: "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren."

Companions, be this our ideal. Let us be faithful to this exalted pattern. It will admit diversities of sentiment. It tolerates kind and enthusiastic discussions. It prompts us to be manly first, that there may be play for brotherly concession. But it harbors no malignities, permits no hyprocisies, and endures no frauds. Whenever my name shall wear the funeral drapery upon your record, and the silence and darkness of the grave shall forbid me to vindicate myself, let the fidelity, to which we are pledged be the surviving voice, to attest that fervency and zeal were the imperishable inmates of my heart.

On motion of R. P. and Rev. Comp. Webster, the Address was referred to a Committee of three, to apportion the matter contained therein to the appropriate Committees.

The Grand Master appointed as said Committee:—R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster, T. Ill. W. P. Durant, T. Ill. G. F. Wiltsie.

The Grand Lecturer presented the following report, which was, on motion, received and referred to the same Committee:

To the M. P. Rev. Charles H. Platt, Grand Master of the Grand Council of the State of New York:

I have the honor to report that during the past year, I have visited and imparted the work of the Council as follows:

Southern Tier, No. 16.....Elmira.
Binghampton, No. 24.....Binghampton.
Palmyra, No. 26.....Palmyra.
Owego, No. 30.....Owego.
Hudson River, No. 21.....Kingston.

Many of the Councils in the Jurisdiction are suffering for the want of proper attention on the part of the officers, who either absent themselves from the regular assemblies, or neglect to perfect themselves in the rituals. It is to be deplored that such is the case while so many means are provided to enable the Councils to secure a correct knowledge of the beautiful and impressive ceremonies of Cryptic Masonry.

The work as approved by you has given entire satisfaction to all who have examined it, and has awakened enthusiasm and zeal among those of the votaries who have the Cryptic Rite at heart.

On the 11th of September last, I received your proxy authorizing me to represent you at the Convention called to meet at St. Louis at the time of the meeting of the Grand Encampment and General Grand Chapter. While deeply regretting that the state of your health prevented you from being in attendance, and where, I am confident, you could have done so much good, I accepted the proxy with great misgiving, and resolved to at least see that the Empire State was represented in the Convention. On arriving there I found great difficulty in ascertaining who had called the meeting, and who were the representatives. It was found to be impossible to accomplish anything definite, and, after

consultation, it was decided to bring the subject of recognizing the Council Degrees and making them prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood before the several State Grand Commanderies, and thus pave the way for some decisive action at the next triennial conclave, to be held at Baltimore, in 1871; and it was thought that if the Companions of the Cryptic Rite only exercise proper fervency and zeal, the representatives to that conclave can be so instructed as to secure the desired recognition. If this is to be done, no time should be lost. Correspondence should at once be opened with the several State Grand Councils, that all may act promptly, harmoniously and effectively; and the result will be, that the Councils will be placed where they rightfully belong, thus perfecting the chain and adding stability and strength to the Grand Masonic plan.

I would respectfully suggest that something may be done by the Grand Council to facilitate the formation of Councils. I find many cases where the Companions would be glad to organize Councils, were it not attended with the loss of time and expense in visiting nearest Councils to receive the Degrees. It seems to me that the Grand Master should be allowed to appoint a proxy to make R. and S. Masters at sight, for the purpose of forming new Councils. There is no good reason why there should not be a Council wherever there is a Chapter. Indeed, I contend such should be the case, then the instruction imparted to the Companion of R. A. may be completed in the history of the S. V. In fact, the R. A. is incomplete without such instruction.

With my personal acknowledgments for the honors you have conferred on me, and my best wishes for the ultimate success of Cryptic Masonry, I remain, etc.

J. H. CHASE, Grand Lecturer.

The Grand Recorder presented the following Annual Report, which was, on motion, received and referred to the Finance Committee:

To the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Recorder presents the following as his Annual Report of the receipts during the past year.

Received during the last Annual Assembly.....	$822.43
Received April 4th, '68, for back dues, Hudson River Council, No. 21.....	31.50
Received June 25th, '68, Dispensation Chautauqua Council	20.00
Received June 25th, '68, Dispensation Sandy Hill Council	20.00
Received Jan. 12th, '69, Dispensation Olean Council	20.00
Received Feb. 1, '69, for Seals to Certificates....	13.50
Total receipts.....	$927.43

All of which has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer and his receipt taken therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following Annual Report, which was received and was also referred to the Finance Committee:

To the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

The Grand Treasurer respectfully presents the following report of the financial affairs of the Grand Council:

1868.				
Feb.	4.	To Cash, Balance on hand		$242.23
Feb.	4.	To Cash, Received from Grand Recorder		87.00
June	20.	To Cash, Received from Grand Recorder		822.43
June	27.	To Cash, Received from Grand Recorder		80.50
June	30.	To Cash Received from Grand Recorder		24.50
1869.				
Jan.	30.	Interest		18.69
				$1,275.35
Cr. 1868.				
Feb.	5.	By Cash paid Warrants 101 to 136, (omitting 125)	$926.83	
Sept.	5.	By Cash paid M. P. Rev. Chas. H. Platt for attendance Cryptic Convention at St. Louis, per Resolution G. C., Feb. 4, 1868	94.60	
Sept.	5.	By Cash paid Quota G. C. toward Cryptic Convention	5.00	
				1,026.43
1869.				
Jan.	30.	To Balance on hand		$248.92

All of which is respectfully submitted,

HENRY F. L. BUNTING, Grand Treasurer.

New York, January 30th, 1869.

The Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

Credentials and Returns:—R. P. Josiah Shove, R. P. John Hoole, R. P. Jackson H. Chase.

Warrants and Dispensations:—R. P. Daniel Wolff, R. P. Seymour H. Stone, T. Ill. Wm. B. Crandall.

Constitutions and By-Laws:—T. Ill. Rees G. Williams, R. P. Joseph B. Chaffee, T. Ill. J. A. Sumner.

Grievances and Appeals:—T. Ill. David F. Day, T. Ill. H. W. McIntire, T. Ill. Howard Cockburn.

Finance:—T. Ill. H. M. Drake, R. Ill. John B. Sackett, T. Ill. Edward H. Brown.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented the following Report, which was, on motion received, and the Committee was discharged.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. Masters of the State of New York:

The Committee on Credentials and Returns report that the following Councils have made correct returns and paid dues and their Representatives are entitled to seats in this Grand Council:

Columbian, No. 1..... .....Wm. S. Paterson, M.
Union, No. 2.....H. E. Gilbert, Proxy.
Brooklyn, No. 4..... .....John Sheville, M.
Adelphic, No. 7..... ..John T. Martin, M.
Central City, No. 13.....E. H. Brown, M.
Bloss, No. 14 { .....H. B. Harvey, M.
{ .....A. W. Richardson, Dep. M.
Bruce, No. 15.....W. H. McCoy, P. C. of W.
Southern Tier, No. 16 { .....H. W. McIntire, M.
{ ..Edwin Spencer, Dep. M.
Buffalo, No. 17.....S. M. Evry, Proxy.
King Hiram, No. 18 { .....J. H. Hoskins, M.
{ ....H. M. Drake, Dep. M.
Doric, No. 19 { .....Wm. B. Crandall, M.
{ .....Wm. Shelp, Dep. M.
Keystone, No. 20 { .....David F. Day, M.
{ ...John B. Sackett, P. C. of W.
Hudson River, No. 21.....Howard Cockburn, M.
De Witt Clinton, No. 22 { Jackson A. Sumner, M.
{ John J. Martin, Dep. M.
{ S. M. Craven, P. C. of W.
Ontario, No. 23.....W. P. Durant, M.
Binghampton, No. 24.....C. F. Paige, P. C. of W.
Dunkirk, No. 25.....W. H. Wyman, M.

Palmyra, No. 26.....M. C. Finley, M.
Batavia, No. 27.....J. M. Showerman, Dep. M.
Mohawk, No. 29 { .....Joseph Chadwick, M.
.....L. D. Sanborn, Dep. M.
Owego, No. 30.....J. B. Judd, Dep. M.
King Solomon, No. 31.....G. Fred. Wiltsie, M.
Chautauqua, U. D. { .....A. A. Burlin, M.
.....G. W. Norton, P. C. of W.
Olean, U. D.....F. L. Stowell.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Shove,
Jno. Hoole, } Committee.
J. H. Chase,

The Committee on Unfinished Business reported verbally that there had been no business left unfinished at the last Annual Assembly for them to act on, and, on motion, their report was received, and the Committee was discharged.

The Special Committee on the Address of the Grand Master presented their report, and, on motion, it was received, and the recommendations therein contained were adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of the State of New York:

The Committee to which was referred the Address of the M. P. Grand Master, also the report of the Grand Lecturer, beg leave respectfully to report: That they have examined the documents referred to, and find them complete and satisfactory, evincing a degree of prosperity for Cryptic Masonry in this Jurisdiction, which warrants our congratulations to him under whose wise, able and judicious Grand Mastership it has reached it.

Your Committee would recommend that a memorial page of our printed Transactions be devoted to the meritorious dead who have been taken from the number of those Past Grand Officers of this Grand Council, so touchingly alluded to in the M. P. Grand Master's Address.

Touching that portion of the Address which refers to the making of the Cryptic Degrees a prerequisite to the conferring of the Orders of Knighthood, your Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Council be earnestly requested to urge upon the representatives to the Grand Commandery of this jurisdiction, the proper recognition of the Cryptic Degrees, in accordance with the Address of the M. P. G. M. and the recommendations contained in the Report of the Grand Lecturer.

The Committee would also respectfully recommend that the Grand Recorder be directed to have printed three hundred copies of the M. P. G. M.'s Address, aside from the regular Proceedings.

Your Committee would also recommend that so much of the Address as refers to the revised work, be referred to the whole Body of the Grand Council, earnestly commending it to their best endeavors, one and all, that it be disseminated and followed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

John G. Webster,)
W. P. Durant,) Committee.
C. Fred. Wiltsie,)

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received and ordered spread at length upon the minutes.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

The undersigned, your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, respectfully report: That they have received and had the pleasure of reviewing the Proceedings at the following named Grand Councils: Alabama, 1867; Arkansas, 1867-8; Connecticut, 1868; Iowa, 1867-8; Illinois, 1867-8; Indiana, 1868; Kentucky, 1867; Louisiana, 1868; Maine, 1868; Massachusetts, 1868; Missouri, 1867; Mississippi, 1868; Tennessee, 1868.

From the general tone of these proceedings, the cryptic section of the great Masonic temple of the United States seems to be sound and unimpaired. "It still lives," and has an emphatic and active being, and is exerting its mystic power and influence in a manner "that good may come out of it."

The Grand Bodies having exclusive control of the cryptic mysteries thus far retain intact their controlling powers and jurisdictions, notwithstanding the many attacks and attempts, in some infected localities, to superinduce their dissolution, for the avowed purpose of surrendering their inherent rights and vestments to the several State Grand Chapters. Why any Companion or Body, claiming Masonic loyalty to our branch of Masonry should have a desire to be continually agitating the subject, with a view to eventually cause our "Masonic stone of foundation" to crumble into ruins and pass into oblivion, we must confess ourselves at

utter loss to divine, unless it arise from a smouldering hatred they entertain toward capitular bodies, and they thus seek an opportunity to gain a "sweet morsel" of revenge by lumbering up the Subordinate Chapters, by forcing upon them the elimination of the Cryptic Degrees, thus virtually producing such a conglomeration of affairs, that the neophyte seeking for "further promotion," when informed what labyrinthian paths he must travel and what amazing scenes and trials he must necessarily pass through before reaching the goal of his desire, would shrink back aghast and "flee as from the wrath to come." With the same propriety might these persistent croakers seek to amalgamate the Cryptic and Capitular with the symbolic degrees. Should such an attempt as the one last referred to ever be made, a friend at our elbow suggests that, should he be present, he will move an amendment to the effect that the mysteries of the "Sons of Malta," the "Order One Thousand and One," the "Knights of Pythias" and "Enclampsus Vitus," be added thereto, in order to produce one of the most ponderous and gigantic combinations of mysteries the world ever contained. Verily the inventive genius of the biped, man, knoweth no rest, and is boundless in its aspirations for aggrandizement and eclat. It utterly ignores the long established maxim that, "It is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations in the body of Masonry." When shall we be allowed to settle down in quietude, and enjoy in its ancient purity, the mystic boon our venerable fathers bequeathed us, with the faith that we in turn should transmit it, unimpaired, to our successors? Away with these ritual tinkers! say we; avaunt! and let well enough alone. Talk of Subordinate Chapters conferring seven degrees! Would not that be a state of affairs strongly reminding one of the condition of one of old time, who was said to have been possessed of seven devils? We trust our Chapter may never become pregnant from such a cause ending in such a result.

If there is any cause for complaint with reference to our venerable brotherhood, we cannot see that it rests with those of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and the Scottish Rite has long since surrendered its claim to authority over us, if we may believe the enunciations of such of its adherents as are addicted to writing on the subject, whose final conclusions may be summed up to correspond with the terse phrase, "So mote it be," etc., etc. * * * *

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations presented the following Report, and, on motion, it was received and its recommendations were adopted:

To the M. P. Grand Council of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Warrants and Dispensations would report, that they have had under their consideration the petitions for Warrants, together with the returns made of work done, and they would respectfully recommend that a Warrant be granted to Anson A. Burlin as T. Ill. Master, Wilford W. Barker as R. Ill. Master, and George W. Norton as Ill. P. C. of the W., and their associate petitioners, for a Council to be located at Jamestown, Chautauqua County, to be known and designated as Chautauqua Council, No. 32.

They would also recommend that a Warrant be granted to John T. Shaw as T. Ill. Master, Horace P. West as R. Ill. Master, and Milton B. Fobes as Ill. P. C. of the W., and their associate petitioners, for a Council to be located at Olean, Cattaraugas County, to be known and designated as Olean Council, No. 33.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Wolff,
Seymour H. Stone, } Committee.
W. B. Crandall,

The Committee on Constitutions and By-Laws presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, and the resolution accompanying the same was unanimously adopted as one of the Standing Regulations of this Grand Council.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Constitution and By-Laws respectfully report, that after carefully examining the Constitution of this Grand Council, we find no provision for the incipient steps toward organizing Subordinate Councils in this jurisdiction, and the present desire to multiply such organizations requiring that a rule be established by this Grand Body to govern such cases, we recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That hereafter all petitions in this jurisdiction for a Dispensation to organize a Council, should have endorsed thereon the consent and recommendation of the nearest Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Rees G. Williams,
J. B. Chaffee, } Committee.
J. A. Sumner,

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals presented the following Report, and, on motion, it was received:

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of New York:

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals report that nothing requiring the action of this Committee has been brought before them.

David F. Day,
H. W. McIntire, } Committee.
Howard Cockburn,

The Committee on Finance presented the following Report, and, on motion, it was received and the recommendations embodied therein were adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the State of N. Y.:

Your Finance Committee would report that they examined the Reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder.

Your Committee would recommend that, in view of the state of the funds of this Grand Council, the sum of ten cents per mile by the usual traveled route be paid to the Grand Officers and Representatives of this Grand Council.

They would also recommend that the sum of one hundred dollars be paid the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. M. Drake,
J. B. Sackett, } Committee.
Edward H. Brown,

The Grand Council then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result:

M. P. and Rev. Chas. H. Platt was re-elected..Grand Master.
R. P. John Hoole was re-elected.....Dep. Grand Master.
R. P. James McCredie was re-elected....Grand Ill. Master.
R. P. John D. Williams was re-elected.Grand P. C. of the W.
R. P. Josiah Shove was re-elected.....Grand Recorder.
M. P. H. F. L. Bunting was re-elected.....Grand Treasurer.

The above officers were then duly installed.

R. P. Daniel Wolff.....Grand C. of the G.
R. P. Joseph B. Chaffee.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster.....Grand Chaplain.
P. F. F. Driggs.....Grand Steward.
P. Amasa Fuller .....Grand Sentinel.

All of whom were duly installed by the Grand Master.

The Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

On Foreign Correspondence:—T. Ill. Charles Craig, T. Ill. John S. Shaw, R. P. James McCredie.

On Unfinished Business:—T. Ill. M. C. Finley, Ill. W. H. McCoy, T. Ill. John Sheville.

Special Finance Committee:—R. P. Daniel Wolff, R. Ill. R. G. Millard, T. Ill. John T. Martin.

Grand Lecturer, Jackson H. Chase.

On motion, the next Annual Assembly was ordered to be held in the City of Albany, on the first Tuesday in February, 1870, at seven o'clock, P. M.

On motion, the Grand Recorder was empowered to have two hundred and fifty copies of the Proceedings printed, to be sent in the usual manner to the Subordinate Councils, and to our sister Grand Councils. No further business appearing, the Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

RECEIPTS AT ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Columbian Council, No. 1	$44.50
Union Council, No. 2	32.85
Brooklyn Council, No. 4	40.00
Adelphic Council, No. 7	115.13
Central City Council, No. 13	38.25
Bloss Council, No. 14	101.25
Bruce Council, No. 15	18.00
Southern Tier Council, No. 16	55.75
Buffalo Council, No. 17	62.83
King Hiram Council, No. 18	15.50
Doric Council, No. 19	73.25
Keystone Council, No. 20	27.36
Hudson River Council, No. 21	17.25
De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22	40.25
Ontario Council, No. 23	18.65
Binghampton Council, No. 24	20.75
Dunkirk Council, No. 25	49.25
Palmyra Council, No. 26	18.39
Batavia Council, No. 27	16.00
Mohawk Council, No. 29	17.23
Owego Council, No. 30	9.00
King Solomon Council, No. 31	26.75
Chautauqua, U. D.	12.65
" Balance on Warrant	10.00
Olean, U. D., Balance on Warrant	10.00
Wyoming, U. D., for Dispensation	20.00
	$910.84

Abstract of Annual Returns of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Council.	Town.	County.	Received and greeted during the year.	Affiliated	Dimitted	Stricken from roll	Died	Present membership
1 Columbian	New York	New York	7	...	1	6	1	75
2 Union	New York	New York	3	...	...	...	...	62
4 Brooklyn	Brooklyn	Kings	7	...	...	...	1	70
7 Adelphic	New York	New York	22	2	8	28	1	174
8 Eureka	Greene	Chenango	...	...	...	...	...	...
13 Central City	Syracuse	Onondaga	7	...	...	...	...	66
14 Bloss	Troy	Rensselaer	13	...	2	...	...	181
15 Bruce	Lockport	Niagara	...	...	...	...	...	36
16 Southern Tier	Elmira	Chemung	19	1	2	...	...	93
17 Buffalo	Buffalo	Erie	10	...	2	14	2	100
18 King Hiram	Auburn	Cayuga	...	...	4	4	...	31
19 Doric	Rochester	Monroe	20	...	1	...	2	128
20 Keystone	Buffalo	Erie	10	...	...	...	...	45
21 Hudson River	Rondout	Ulster	16	...	1	...	2	27
22 DeWitt Clinton	Albany	Albany	11	...	4	...	...	64
23 Ontario	Geneva	Ontario	2	...	2	...	...	35

24	Binghamton	Binghamton	Broome	3	...	...	.....	...	47
25	Dunkirk	Dunkirk	Chautauqua	11	...	...	.....	1	92
26	Palmyra	Palmyra	Wayne	5	...	...	.....	1	32
27	Batavia	Batavia	Genesee	.....	...	1	.....	1	32
28	Utica	Utica	Oneida	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....
29	Mohawk	Cohoes	Albany	7	...	2	.....	...	26
30	Owego	Owego	Tioga	.....	...	1	.....	1	16
31	King Solomon	Newburgh	Orange	15	...	...	.....	...	37
32	Chautauqua	Jamestown	Chautauqua	9	...	...	.....	...	18
33	Olean	Olean	Chautauqua	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....
	U. D. Watertown	Watertown	Jefferson	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....
	U. D. Lyons	Lyons	Wayne	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....
	U. D. Sandy Hill	Sandy Hill	Washington	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....
	U. D. Wyoming	Pike	Wyoming	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....
				197	3	31	52	13	1487

Officers of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New Yerk

Number and Name.	Masters.	Deputy Masters.	P. C. of the W.	Recorders.
1 Columbian	Wm. S. Paterson	H. W. Steinhard	Chas. Van Holland	Wm. J. Surre
2 Union	Geo. W. Southwick	Robert Stephens	John Schreyer	Henry C. Parke
4 Brooklyn	John Sheville	Wm. R. Leonard	A. C. Willmarth	Edward Cooper
7 Adelphic	John T. Martin	P. W. VerHoeven	Benj. S. Hill	E. M. Alford, Jr.
8 Eureka	(No returns)			R. P. Barnard
13 Central City	Edward H. Brown	A. C. Wood	Mead Belden	R. M. Beecher
14 Bloss	Henry B. Harvey	A. W. Richardson	Edwin Burlingame	David M. Rankin
15 Bruce	Charles Craig	Jason Collier	W. H. McCoy	George W. Hall
16 Southern Tier	H. W. McIntire	Edwin Spencer	F. D. Ramsdell	Wm. H. Browne
17 Buffalo	James McCredie	John Briggs	C. M. Farrar	S. M. Evry
18 King Hiram	James H. Hoskins	H. M. Drake	T. B. Barber	John C. White
19 Doric	Wm. B. Crandall	Wm. Shelp	P. H. Marshall	John Alexander
20 Keystone	David F. Day	S. M. Ratcliffe	John B. Sackett	Chris. G. Fox
21 Hudson River	Howard Cockburn	Wm. M. Hayes	Robert Loughran	Wm. H. Turner
22 DeWitt Clinton	Jackson A. Sumner	John J. Martin	S. M. Craver	Chas. T. Platto
23 Ontario	W. P. Durrant	J. T. Scoon	W. D. Burrill	Wm. N. Smith
24 Binghamton	Orlando W. Earle	E. N. Gillespy	Clinton F. Paige	Geo. W. Seymour
25 Dunkirk	Wm. H. Wyman	B. Rathbun	A. H. Libby	M. D. Cushing
26 Palmyra	Mark C. Finley	T. S. Jackson	J. J. White	E. W. Cummings
27 Batavia	Albert R. Warner	J. M. Showerman	Charles H. Monell	David Seaver
28 Utica	Rees G. Williams			
29 Mohawk	Joseph Chadwick	L. D. Sanborn	George Campbell	George H. Plantz
30 Owego	Daniel E. Comstock	J. B. Judd	Jno. B. Stanbrough	Chas. M. Heywood
31 King Solomon	G. Fred. Wiltsie	Isaac W. Baker	A. B. Smith	Sam'l W. Corwin
32 Chautauqua	Anson A. Burlin	W. W. Parker	George W. Norton	S. R. Lawson
33 Olean	John S. Shaw	H. P. West	M. B. Fobes	
U. D. Watertown	(No returns)			
U. D. Lyons	Joseph Walling	Wm. G. David	Seth C. Searle	
U. D. Sandy Hill	F. G. Vaughn	Wm. A. Fox	J. Wm. Wait	
U. D. Wyoming	Henry H. Lyman	Geo. E. Copeland	Osborn Randall	

Address of the Grand Masters and Grand Recorders

Of the Grand Councils of the United States

State.	Grand Master.	Address.	Grand Recorder.	Address.
Alabama	Rev. Eugene V. LeVert	Marion	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery
Arkansas	Harris Flanagin	Arkadelphia	William D. Blocher	Little Rock
Connecticut	Stephen T. Bartlett	Bridgeport	J. K. Wheeler	Hartford
California			L. C. Owen	San Francisco
Florida			Hugh A. Corley	Tallahassee
Georgia	Stephen D. Heard	Augusta	B. B. Russell	Augusta
Illinois	John M. Pearson	Godfrey	John C. Reynolds	Springfield
Indiana	Thomas Pattison	Aurora	John M. Bramwell	Indianapolis
Iowa	Joseph A. Hursh	Iowa City	W. B. Langridge	Muscatine
Kansas	Richard A. Rees	Leavenworth	Otto C. Beeler	Leavenworth
Kentucky	Philip Swigert	Frankfort	A. G. Hodges	Frankfort
Louisiana	J. Q. A. Fellows	New Orleans	Gustav Sontag	New Orleans
Maine	Josiah H. Drummond	Portland	Ira Berry	Portland
Massachusetts	Charles E. Powers	Boston	Solon Thornton	Boston
Michigan	J. T. Hayden	Hillsdale	O. Bourke	Detroit
Missouri	Thomas E. Garrett	St. Louis	George Frank Gonley	St. Louis
Mississippi	Giles M. Hillyer	Natchez	O. T. Keeler	Columbus
New Brunswick, Can.	Robert Marshall	St. John	D. R. Munro	St. John
New Hampshire	John R. Holbrook	Portsmouth	Luther W. Nichols	Concord
New Jersey	Charles Bechtel	Trenton	T. J. Corson	Trenton
New York	Charles H. Platt	Binghamton	Josiah Shove	New York, Box 3737
North Carolina	Thomas B. Carr	Wilmington	H. H. Munson	Wilmington
Ohio	Charles Brown	Cincinnati	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati
Oregon			Benjamin F. Goodwin	Portland
Pennsylvania	Alfred Creigh	Washington	Christian Stolz	Reading
Rhode Island	James H. Armington	Providence	Clinton D. Sellew	Providence
South Carolina	Albert G. Mackey	Charleston	H. W. Schroeder	Charleston
Tennessee	David Cook, Sen.	Lebanon	John Frizzell	Nashville
Vermont	Squire Marcy	Hartland	John B. Hollenbeck	Burlington
Wisconsin	Melvin L. Young	Milwaukee	William T. Palmer	Milwaukee

REPRESENTATIVES

NEAR SISTER GRAND COUNCILS.

Josiah H. Drummond of Portland.... ...Grand Council of Maine.

Rev. Thomas D. Lawson of Bastrop...Grand Council of Louisiana.

Rev. Levi H. Corson of Jonesville.....Grand Council of Michigan.

Marcus Higginbotham of Jersey City.Grand Council of New Jersey.

James L. Gould of Bridgeport.....Grand Council of Connecticut.

D. R. Munro of St. John..... .Grand Council of New Brunswick.

OFFICERS OF GRAND COUNCIL, 1869.

M. P. Charles H. Platt, Binghampton....Grand Master.

R. P. John Hoole, New York.....Dep. Grand Master.

R. P. James McCredie, Buffalo.....Grand Ill. Master.

R. P. John D. Williams, Elmira...Grand P. C. of the W.

R. P. Josiah Shove, Box 3737, New York..Gd. Recorder.

M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting, New York.Grand Treasurer.

R. P. Daniel Wolff, New York...Grand C. of the Guard.

R. P. Joseph B. Chaffee, Binghampton...Grand Marshal.

R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster, Palmyra..Grand Chaplain.

P. F. F Driggs, Dunkirk.....Grand Steward.

P. Amasa Fuller, Albany.....Grand Sentinel.

R. P. Jackson H. Chase, Palmyra.....Grand Lecturer.

To the Members of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

In the midst of life we are in death. Scarcely have the echoes of your retreating feet ceased to reverberate from the walls of our secret vault, ere the cry of distress is heard, proclaiming the death of our honored and beloved Grand Master. He had just been with us in the Sanctum Sanctorum, where he had offered up our united devotions to Deity, and where the designs had been drawn out on the Masonic trestle board for the coming year, and as he passed out from thence to mingle again with the Craft, he was met by the bright angel of death, summoning him from the scene of his labors to the place of his great reward. So closely do the glories of the world, that is to be, at times, impinge upon the shadows of this world, that the spiritual minded oftentimes seem to be gifted with a spirit of prophecy, knowing, or rather feeling, without clearly knowing that their change is near.

Thus witness the touching appeal of our beloved Companion, to be relieved from the cares of the office he had zealously and so conscientiously filled for the past six years, as also the closing sentence of his last address to us: "Whenever my name shall wear the funeral drapery upon your record, and the silence and darkness of the grave shall forbid me to vindicate myself, let the fidelity to which we are pledged, be the surviving voice to attest that fervency and zeal were the imperishable inmates of my heart."

The Most Puissant and Reverend Charles H Platt, died at his residence, in Binghampton, on Thursday, February 25, at 12.15 A. M., after a short but very painful illness, in the midst of a life filled to overflowing with usefulness.

No words of mine can add to your appreciation of the loss thus sustained by the special branch of our Masonic family of which he was the head in this State.

Who, so earnest, so patient, and so persistent, in forwarding its interests as he; who so affable, so courteous, so conciliatory, when difficulties were to be encountered and smoothed away; who so well upheld our banner and with dignity contended for our rights against those upon whom conciliation proved to be thrown away? His motto was ever, "First pure, then peaceable."

Throughout the Masonic world his name was for us a tower of strength, and we may truly say that in losing him, we have lost not only the sympathizing friend and brother, but also the sure and steadfast guide and counseler.

Let us hope that the mantle he so long and so worthily wore, will fall upon shoulders as able and as willing as his.

New York, March 1, 1869. J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

In Memory

OF

Most Puissant and Reverend

CHARLES H. PLATT

Grand Master of Royal and Select Masons
of the State of New York.

Died Feb. 25, A. D. 1869.

†

Right Puissant

AUGUSTUS WILLARD, M. D.

Past Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Council
of the State of New York.

Died September 20th, A. D. 1868.

†

Right Puissant

BRADLEY PARKER, M. D.

Past Grand Illustrious Master of the Grand Council
of the State of New York.

Died January 16th, A. D. 1869.

GRAND COUNCIL.

Annual Assembly, Grand Council Room,

Albany, Tuesday, Feb. 1st, A. D. 1870, A. Dep. 2870

The Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York convened in Annual Assembly in the City of Albany,, in accordance with a resolution of the last Annual Assembly, on Tuesday, February, 1st, A. D. 1870, A. Dep. 2870. Present:

R. P. John Hoole as.....Grand Master.
R. P. James McCredie....Grand Illustrious Master.
R. P. John D. Williams...Grand P. C. of the Work.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
R. P H. F. L. Bunting.....Grand Treasurer.
R. P. Daniel Wolff.....Grand C. of the Guard.
R. P. Joseph B. Chaffee.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster.....Grand Chaplain.
P. F. F. Driggs.....Grand Steward.
P. Amasa Fuller.....Grand Sentinel.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Columbian, No. 1,
Union, No. 2,
Brooklyn, No. 4,
Adelphic, No. 7,
Central City, No. 13,
Bloss, No. 14,
Bruce, No. 15,
Southern Tier, No. 16,
Buffalo, No. 17,
King Hiram, No. 18,
Doric, No. 19,
Keystone, No. 20,
Hudson River, No. 21,
De Witt Clinton, No. 22,
Ontario, No. 23,
Binghampton, No. 24,
Dunkirk, No. 25,
Palmyra, No. 26,
Batavia, No. 27,
Utica, No. 28,
Mohawk, No. 29,
Owego, No. 30,
King Solomon, No. 31,
Chautauqua, No. 32,
Olean, No. 33.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form. On motion of M. P. Comp. H. F. L. Bunting it was

Resolved, That all Companion Select Masters in good standing be invited to take seats as visitors in this Grand Council.

R. P. Comp. John Hoole, acting Grand Master, then delivered the following address.

THE ADDRESS.

Companions of the Grand Council:—

Assembled again for consultation and action, touching the interest of the jurisdiction, I find myself, by a sad dispensation of that Supreme Authority from which there is no appeal, standing in the place of our late honored chieftain and attempting, as I may, to discharge the duties allotted to him—duties which, by education and natural ability, he was so well fitted to discharge; which under his skillful direction, moved as under the hand of a master workman.

Scarce had the echoes of our last Annual Assembly ceased, ere we were called to mourn the loss of our Most Puissant Grand Master, who, after a brief illness, yielded to the mandate of the destroyer, on the 25th of the month in which we had, in this place, listened to the accents of his last annual address. In almost the first paragraph of that document he said, after referring to his repeated elections to the highest office in our gift, "I entreat you, now, to dismiss me as a good and faithful servant, as a gentle and considerate Master;" and again, as if in concluding his address the angel of death had guided his pen, "whenever my name shall wear the funeral drapery upon your record and the silence and darkness of the grave shall forbid me to vindicate myself, let the fidelity to which we are pledged be the surviving voice to attest that fervency and zeal were the imperishable inmates of my heart," and then he returned to the bosom of his family to die.

To-day his name stands upon our record in the sombre drapery of the dead, but his memory will be cherished while we can appreciate a noble heart, a sincere piety, unselfish devotion and the shining example of an upright and perfect man.

I was unable to attend the funeral solemnities, but it affords me melancholy pleasure to report that every honor known to the craft was paid to his honored remains.

You will hardly need a recommendation to place upon your records a suitable memorial of your affection for him while living, and of your reverence for his memory, now that he has entered the life beyond the veils; nor need I urge you to participate in the effort now being made to erect to his honor a memorial that shall point out to the world how Masons love one another. Since the administration of affairs has been in my hands, the utmost harmony has continued to prevail, and we have been making gradual, but safe progress.

I have granted dispensations to form new Councils as follows:

June 4th, 1869. To Companions H. P. Johnson, John McDougal, R. Cameron, and others, to form Hornellsville Council, at Hornellsville.

June 11th. To Companions Charles W. Brown, M. R. Vedder, Joseph L. Frame and others, to form Pentalpha Council at Flushing, Queens County.

January 5th, 1870. To Companions Charles Holden, Lorin B. Putnam, George H. Gillis and others, to form Cryptic Council, at Saratoga Springs.

And I have every reason to believe that in issuing Warrants of Constitution to them, we will secure valuable aid in the prosecution of our labors, and in consolidating and extending the influence of this Grand Council.

Chautauqua Council and Olean Council, to which Warrants were granted at the last Annual Assembly, were constituted and their officers installed by P. Comp. F. F. Driggs, Grand Steward, under proper authority.

I have not been called to perform any other official act.

Our relations with other Grand Councils continue to be of the most cordial nature and such particulars as may be of interest in relation to their doings will be laid before you by our excellent Committee on Correspondence.

Considerable interest has been manifested by companions in this and other jurisdictions in relation to securing a recognition for the Sublime Degrees under our charge as a part of the regular series in what we may very properly denominate the American Rite, since it differs materially from all other rites and systems in whatever country practiced. There is of course, strong opposition to be met and overcome, else we should long since have occupied the position due us; but my own judgment is that we may best effect the object in view by a steady and persistent prosecution of our labors.

Every Royal Arch Mason receiving the degrees taught by us is a convert gained, and a weight of influence added to our side of the question. As the good work progresses, as new Councils are formed and their influence exerted in their respective localities, the opposition will wear out, and we shall be admitted to our place.

On the other hand, an aggressive policy will tend to keep alive jealousies and bitterness, and not only delay our ultimate object, but seriously impede the progress we shall otherwise make. My counsel in this matter is that we devote ourselves with zeal and assiduity to the strengthening of our household, to increasing the number of the

faithful, and by these means to make ourselves a power in the Craft that will be recognized at its proper value, when it has no favors to ask and is sufficient unto itself.

Let us, then, cultivate harmony, unity and good fellowship among ourselves, keep bright our knowledge of our observances, and walk uprightly in the paths indicated by the ritual and our covenants, and we shall have the satisfaction of knowing that if we have not achieved success, at least we have deserved it.

The paths are open before us and we shall be more likely to make progress by our own efforts than by depending on the favor of other organizations.

I have received from the Grand Council of Alabama a circular suggesting a meeting of the delegates from the several Grand Councils on this continent, in September, 1870, in the city of New York, or at such other place and time as may be agreed upon. I entertain no doubt, but that such a meeting would do much to secure greater uniformity in our proceedings and a better understanding among the several Grand Councils; but I do not believe that the Grand Councils will be willing to incur the expense of such a meeting. It would in my judgment be better to defer it until the meeting of the National Bodies in September, 1871, and trust to a better attention to business on that occasion than prevailed at St. Louis.

Beyond this I have no suggestions to make that will not be apparent of themselves in the regular course of business, which you will now proceed to transact with that just regard for the general welfare and the rights of individuals which has always hitherto distinguished you.

I should be remiss in that courtesy which should ever distinguish us, did I fail to acknowledge the uniform kindness I have received, since placed in my present position. I do so acknowledge it, and tender to one and all my most grateful and appreciative thanks therefor.

Finally, Companions, let us reverently and humbly, render to the Source of all Good, our gratitude for the protecting kindness of which we have been the recipients; that our work has been allowed to progress and ourselves and families kept from sickness and death; and let us also pray that our present proceedings may be under divine favor, and that our hearts may be attuned to praise and serve the Lord of Hosts.

On motion of Comp. G. F. Wiltsie, the Address was referred to a Committee of three, to apportion the matter therein contained, to appropriate Committees.

The Grand Master appointed as such Committee, T. Ill. Comps. G. F. Wiltsie, H. C. Parke, G. W. Thorn.

The Grand Recorder and the Grand Treasurer presented the following reports, which were, on motion, received and referred to the Finance Committee.

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Recorder begs leave to present the following Annual Report:

Receipts at last Annual Assembly.....	$910.84
Receipts June 7, Dispensation, Hornellsville Council	20.00
Receipts June 14, Dispensation, Pentalpha Council	20.00
Receipts January 6, Dispensation, Cryptic Council	20.00
Twenty-two Seals on Certificates during year,	11.00
	$981.84

All of which has been paid to the Grand Treasurer and his receipt taken therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

Albany, February 1, 1870.

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

	Dr.				
1869.	Feb.	1.	To Balance on hand as per last report		$248.92
	Feb.	16.	To Cash from Grand Recorder		910.84
1870.	Jan.	20.	To Cash from Grand Recorder		71.00
	Jan.	31.	To Interest		15.09
	Cr.				$1,245.85
1869.	Feb.	3.	By Cash paid Warrants 137 to 172	$757.20	
	Apr.	21.	By Cash paid Warrant 173	196.47	953.67
			Balance on hand January 31, 1870		$292.18

HENRY F. L. BUNTING, Grand Treasurer.

E. E. New York, January 31, 1870.

The Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

Credentials and Returns:—Jackson H. Chase, Josiah Shove, G. W. Thorn.

Warrants and Dispensations:—Daniel Wolff, H. B. Harvey, W. H. Wyman.

Constitution and By-Laws:—R. G. Williams, J. B. Chaffee, J. J. Martin.

Grievances and Appeals:—C. F. Paige, H. W. McIntire, G. Fred. Wiltsie.

Finance:—John D. Williams, H. C. Parke, David F. Day.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented the following Report, which was, on motion, received, and the Committee was discharged.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

The Committee on Credentials and Returns report that the following Councils have made correct returns and paid dues, and their Representatives are entitled to seats in this Grand Council, with the exception of the four Councils under Dispensation.

Columbian, No. 1.....Wm. S. Patterson, M.
Union, No. 2.....Henry C. Parke, M.
Adelphic, No. 7 { .....G. W. Thorn, M.
.....W. G. Shaw, Dep. M. }
Central City, No. 13.....A. G. Cook, M.
Bloss, No. 14 { .....H. B. Harvey, M.
.....A. W. Richard, Dep. M.
.....E. B. Cox, P. C. of W. }
Bruce, No. 15.....Jason Collier, M.
Southern Tier, No. 16.....H. W. McIntire, M.
Buffalo, No. 17.....J. McCredie, M.
King Hiram, No. 18.....John H. Hoskins, M.
Doric, No. 19.....Wm. Shelp, M.
Keystone, No. 20.....David F. Day, M.
Hudson River, No. 21.....John P. Curtis, M.
DeWitt Clinton, No. 22 { ...John J. Martin, M.
L. H. Boyle, P. C. of W. }
Ontario, No. 23.....Wm. P. Durant, M.
Binghampton, No. 24..C. F. Paige, P. C. of W.
Dunkirk, No. 25.....Wm. H. Wyman, M.
Palmyra, No. 26.....M. C. Finley, M.
Batavia, No. 27.....H. Bostwick, M.
Utica, No. 28.....Charles B. Foster, Proxy.
Mohawk, No. 29.....Morris North, M.
Owego, No. 30.John B. Stanbrough, P. C. of W.
King Solomon, No. 31....G. Fred. Wiltsie, M.
Chautauqua, No. 32.Wilfred W. Barker, Proxy.
Olean, No. 33.....J. S. Shaw, M.
Pentalpha, U. D...J. L. Frame, Jr., P. C. of W.
Hornellsville, U. D.....H. P. Johnson, M.
Cryptic, U. D.....C. H. Holden, M.
Watertown, U. D.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. Chase,
J. Shove,
G. W. Thorn, } Committee.

The Committee on Unfinished Business reported verbally that nothing had come before them requiring any action, and, on motion, their report was received and the committee was discharged.

The Special Committee on the Address of the Grand Master presented their report, and, on motion, it was received and its recommendations were adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of the State of New York:

The Committee to whom was referred the Address of the M. P. Grand Master, beg leave respectfully to report:

That they have carefully examined the document referred to them, and find it complete and satisfactory as regards the progress of Cryptic Masonry in this jurisdiction.

Your Committee would recommend that so much of the Address as refers to the demise of our late M. P. Grand Master, Comp. Charles H. Platt, be referred to a special committee of three.

Touching that portion of the Address referring to the suggestion of the Grand Council of Alabama, concerning a convention of the several Grand Councils of the U. S., we heartily concur in the sentiments expressed by our M. P. G. M., deferring action until the session of the National Bodies in 1871.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. Fred Wiltsie,)
H. C. Parke, } Committee.
Geo. W. Thorn,)

The Grand Master appointed as the Committee on the death of M. P. Comp. C. H. Platt, Comps. C. F. Paige, Rev. J. G. Webster, C. B. Foster.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented the following Annual Report, which was, upon motion, received and ordered spread at length upon the minutes.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

It is with feelings of mingled sorrow and grief that your committee again enter upon the discharge of the duties assigned them. An event of more than ordinary interest has transpired within the past year, tending to produce such a state of feeling—an event which casts a gloom throughout our entire Cryptic domain.

Since the last Annual Assembly of this Grand Council, he, who was chosen as our chief for the ensuing year, has passed away from earth, and has been called home to his Master, who sitteth in eternal Majesty upon the great white Throne. He whom we had learned to love and obey; he whom it was our delight to cluster around; he whose genial greetings we were wont to enjoy, whose noble and generous heart was filled to overflowing with kindness and affection for his fellow-companions, is not with us at this annual gathering. He is gone—gone forever. Our choicest and most brilliant jewel is dimmed and lost, and none of us can restore it. A brilliant light has been extinguished, and none, save the Most High and Holy One, can relight it. Yet we are not without hope, and are consoled with the firm belief that though lost to us, and its precious casket crumbled into dust, it has been translated to realms of immortal bliss, and been reset in a crown of eternal life, where its radiant brilliancy will be no more dimmed forever. The closing words of his last annual address to this Grand Body seem now to have been almost prophetic, and the sentiment idealized therein superinduces the thought that he had been permitted to glance at the arcana of time inscribed upon the hidden pages of the great book of the mysterious and unrevealed future, which inspired him on that occasion, to say as follows:

"Whenever my name shall wear the funeral drapery upon your record, and the silence and darkness of the grave shall forbid me to vindicate myself, let the fidelity to which we are pledged, be the surviving voice to attest that fervency and zeal were the imperishable inmates of my heart."

How little did you, who listened on that occasion to those solemn words, think that within so brief a period of time you would be called upon to follow his lifeless remains to the "narrow house appointed for all living," there to tenderly commit them to the bosom of his mother earth! But so it was to be. Like a good Christian warrior that he was, "he died full knightly with his armor on."

On the banks of the charming Susquehanna, where the famed and sprightly Chenango unites and contributes its waters thereto—at his quiet home, the beautiful "Otsiningo," within the limits of his pastoral charge, surrounded by his little family circle, but secluded from his many companions at large—on Saint Matthias Day, February 20, 1869, our honored and beloved Most Puissant Grand Master, Rev. Charles Henry Platt, in the vigor of life and prime of manhood, ceased to live. There and then he met the grim tyrant, the unrelenting conqueror of man, and passed from life unto death, beyond the pale of mortals.

As the announcement of this startling and sad event was flashed throughout our jurisdiction, his numerous companions shrank

aghast, and were almost paralyzed with grief. It seemed almost impossible to realize that their chief had fallen, and the heart-strings were nearly rent asunder; for

> "None knew him but to love him,
> None named him but to praise."

How beautifully opposite, the following portrays his peculiar characteristics, as known by many:

> Abon Ben Adhem—may his tribe increase—
> Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,
> And saw within the moonlight in his room,
> Making it rich, and like a lily in bloom,
> An Angel writing in a book of gold.
> Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold,
> And to the Presence in the room he said:
> "What writest thou?" The Vision raised its head
> And, with a look made of all sweet accord,
> Answered: "The names of those who love the Lord."
> "And is mine one?" said Abon. "Nay, not so,"
> The Angel answered. Abou spoke more low,
> But cheerily still, and said, "I pray thee, then,
> Write me as one who loves his fellow-men."
> The Angel wrote and vanished. The next night
> It came again, with a great wakening light,
> And showed the names of those whom love of God had blest,
> And, lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.

Such, emphatically, was a prominent trait of character in him whose loss—untimely loss—we all deplore. It was the fortune of the writer to have known him long and intimately well; also to have the privilege of meeting him at the very threshold of Masonry and to prepare him for induction therein, and to render important assistance in making him acquainted and conversant with the various grades of Masonic light, until he reached the top round of the ladder in the Ancient York Rite. But he has now gone to claim his reward, and having been faithful unto death, will receive a crown of life.

Illustrious Companions of the Grand Council of the State of New York, the mortal remains of our late Most Puissant Companion, Charles H. Platt, lie buried in a rural cemetery, near the quiet village of Lyons, in Wayne County, with nothing distinctive to mark their humble resting place, should you ever wish to find the spot. Shall that now sacred place remain barren to the vision of the visiting pilgrims? The Grand Commandery of our State, of which he was a prominent and honored member, says, No! and has taken an initiative step to erect a monument over the remains of their late accomplished Prelate and noble Christian warrior, and have contributed

a munificent sum to be devoted to the furtherance of that object. Will this Grand Council do likewise and enter into a joint co-operation with the other distinctive Grand Masonic Bodies of the State with which he was officially prominently connected?

Leaving the subject with the Grand Council to determine and decide, we turn with a heavy heart, to the task allotted us to perform, and would respectfully report that we have the gratification to announce the reception of the Transactions of nineteen Grand Councils, within a brief period of time, which embrace respectively the jurisdictions of Alabama, 1868; Arkansas, 1869; Connecticut, 1869; Georgia 1868; Iowa, 1869; Indiana, 1869; Kentucky, 1869; Louisiana, 1869; Maine, 1869; Massachusetts, 1869; Missouri, 1869; Mississippi 1869; New Hampshire, 1869; New Jersey, 1868, New Brunswick, 1868; Ohio, 1869; Rhode Island, 1869; Tennessee, 1869; Vermont, 1868.

Some few of the foregoing were received as early as the latter part of November last, while others have been straggling along at intervals, until the last week prior to the present Annual Assembly; consequently, instead of having an abundance of time and opportunity to devote to the reading up and digesting the contents, thereby enabling us to obtain a correct status of the general affairs and condition of Cryptic Masonry as therein shadowed forth, we have had, comparatively, but a few brief moments in which to attempt to write a report thereon. It will, therefore, readily be seen and understood that it is almost impossible to attempt a detailed review of the many interesting features and matters of general interest contained in said Transactions that are worthy of notice and elucidation. Indeed, it would require the abilities and varied talents of a modern lightning calculator to accomplish such a task and reduce it to a practical form. Your Committee, therefore, ask to be indulged, as on a former occasion, in the privilege of taking further time, with permission to make a supplemental report to embrace such matters, which they will hereafter place in the hands of the Right Puissant Grand Recorder, in time to be engrossed and incorporated with the transactions of the present Annual Assembly of the Grand Council.

Congratulating the Grand Council upon the apparent general prosperity of Cryptic Masonry in the United States, and trusting that such may ever continue to accompany its mission, we respectfully submit the foregoing introductory report, appending thereto the following circular, issued by the Grand Recorder of the Grand Council of Alabama, and recently addressed to the Chairman of your Committee, which refers to a subject of vital interest to the several jurisdictions for whom it is intended.

C. CRAIG, Chairman.

To the Recorders of all the Grand Councils in the United States and the British Provinces:

Sirs and Companions:—I have the pleasure of informing you that the Grand Council of Alabama, at its recent Assembly, just now closed, adopted the following resolution; and in the hope that it may lead to something definite upon the subject to which it refers, I send you a copy in advance of the publication of the proceedings.

Fraternally,

[L. S.] DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Recorder.

Resolved, That the Grand Puissant of this Grand Council, or any proxy appointed by him, be, and he is hereby appointed, as a delegate to meet other delegates of the several Grand Councils of the United States and the British Provinces, in a General Convention, in the City of New York, on the first Monday in September, 1870; or at such other place and time as may be agreed upon, to consult upon the interest of Cryptic Masonry, and especially as to Work, Titles and Degrees.

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations presented the following Report, which was on motion, received, and the recommendations contained therein were adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

The undersigned, your Committee on Warrants and Dispensations, beg leave to report, that we have considered the subject-matter referred to us, and would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That Warrants be granted as follows:

To Companions Charles H. Van Brakle, Master; James Johnson, Deputy Master; and Azariah H. Sawyer, P. C. of the W.; and their associates, to be styled Watertown Council, No. 34, to be held at Watertown, Jefferson County, N. Y.

To Companions John I. Bentley, Master; Samuel P. Arnett, Deputy Master; and William H. Badger, P. C. of the W., and their associates, to be styled Hornellsville Council, No. 35, to be held at Hornellsville, Steuben Co., N. Y.

To Companions Charles W. Brown, Master; Mans R. Vedder, Deputy Master; and Joseph L. Frame, Jr., P. C. of the W., and

their associates, to be styled Pentalpha Council, No. 36, to be held at Flushing, Queens Co., N. Y.

To Companions Charles H. Holden, Master; Loren B. Putnam, Deputy Master, and George H., P. C. of the W., and their associates, to be styled Cryptic Council, No. 37, to be held at Saratoga Springs, Saratoga Co., N. Y.

Resolved, That this Grand Council issue a new Warrant to Utica Council, No. 28, the original one having been lost.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Daniel Wolff,
Henry B. Harvey, } Committee.
William H. Wyman,

The Committee on Constitution and By-Laws presented the following Report, and, on motion, it was received.

The Amendment to the Constitution was unanimously adopted, and the resolution appended to report was adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

The Committee upon Constitution and By-Laws, to whom was referred the amendment of Companion Clinton F. Paige, respectfully report: That they had the same under consideration and recommend that Section 6, of the Constitution of this Grand Council, be amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 6. The Grand Master has power to convene any Council in this jurisdiction, to preside therein, to inspect its proceedings and require its conformity to Masonic rules. He may require the attendance of, and information from, any Master respecting his office; he may make Royal and Select Masters at sight, and may, by written dispensation, delegate this power; he may grant dispensations for new Councils, on proper application, when the Grand Council is not in session, and during the recess of the Grand Council may exercise all of its executive function.

The resolution adopted by this Grand Body at its last session, found on page 35 of Proceedings of 1869, requiring the consent and recommendation of the nearest Council in order to form a subordinate Council, operates prejudicially to the growth and usefulness of Cryptic Masonry; we therefore submit the following, and recommend its adoption:

Resolved, That the resolution adopted at our last session, requiring the consent and recommendation of the nearest Council

in order to organize a Council, be, and the same is, hereby rescinded.

Respectfully submitted,

Rees G. Williams,
J. B. Chaffee, } Committee.
J. J. Martin,

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals reported verbally that nothing had been presented to them on which they could take any action, and, on motion, the report was received.

The Committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's Address as related to the death of M. P. Comp. C. H. Platt, presented the following Report, which was accepted and the resolutions appended thereto were adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of the State of New York:

The Select Committee, to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's Address as relates to the decease of M. P. and Reverend Charles H. Platt, A. M., late G. M., also the communication of De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22, touching the same subject, respectfully report as follows:

We would cordially commend to this G. C. the tender and appreciative sentiments contained in said communication, and, in the name of every member thereof, would reciprocate the same.

In addition to this, your Committee would make the opportunity equally extensive and personal, of placing upon our record our unfeigned acquiescence in the touching and truthful tribute of our acting G. M. to the virtues and worth of our late lamented Companion, as expressed in his Address this evening.

Further than this, your Committee unhesitatingly state, concerning the subject of their deliberations (the majority of them having known him intimately in every relation of life), that no word of praise known within the bounds of sober propriety are too expressive to depict his worth as a man, his devotion as a Christian, and the noble qualities of his head and heart. He was wise in counsel, he was solid in argument, he was brilliant in speech, he was mild in temper, he was genial in companionship, he was brave in the defense of the truth and the right, he was ever faithful to his friends, he had no enemies. He discharged the high offices of the sacred ministry with singular fidelity, zeal and success.

All this, your Committee take pleasure in saying of him as a man and a Christian pastor. As a Mason, your committee feel that few words are needed here to elucidate his character, set forth his

worth, or to express the extent of the loss which the craft has sustained by his decease, especially the Grand Council, which has enjoyed the benefit of his peculiar abilities so long.

These things are well known to the fraternity throughout this and other States of the American Union. His hearty and intelligent devotion to the interests of the craft in all its departments, his attractive bearing, his suavity of manners, his considerate kindness toward all the brethren, endeared him to all hearts.

In conclusion, your Committee would remind you that, although you resolve to assist in rearing a monument to his memory, yet the best monument to his worth is the late history of Cryptic Masonry in this jurisdiction, over which he has presided as G. M. with such signal ability the last few years. Your Committee would venture the doubt that, as workers in the S. V., we can show our appreciation of his virtues and example in any better manner than by imitating and following them.

We would submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, That in the decease of M. P. Companion the late Rev. Charles H. Platt, A. M., Cryptic Masonry in New York has sustained an irreparable loss.

Resolved, That while we bow with dutiful submission to this mandate of the Supreme G. M. above, we commend to his fatherly care and protection the widow and the fatherless, beseeching Him to extend to them that protection which is not in the power of man, and that comfort which comes not of earth.

Resolved, That we assure them of our heartfelt condolence and sympathy in their bereavement.

Respectfully submitted,

Clinton F. Paige,
John G. Webster, } Committee.
Charles B. Foster,

The Committee on Finance offered the following Reports, which were, on motion, received, and the recommendations were adopted.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, beg leave to say that they have carefully examined the said reports, and the vouchers accompanying them, and that they find the same correct.

Your Committee recommend, in view of the state of the funds of this Grand Council, that the sum of five cents per mile, by the usual traveled route (going and returning) be paid to the Officers and Representatives of this Grand Council.

They would also recommend that the sum of one hundred dollars be paid to the Grand Recorder for his services during the past year, and that the sum of ten dollars be paid to the Grand Sentinel for his service and attendance at the present assembly of the Grand Council.

They also recommend that the sum of twenty-five dollars be paid to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for services and expenses on that Committee.

All of which is most fraternally submitted.

John D. Williams,)
David F. Day,) Committee.
Henry C. Parke,)

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

The Finance Committee, to whom was referred the resolution offered by Companion C. F. Paige, appropriating the sum of blank dollars toward the erection of a suitable monument to the memory of our late Most Puissant Grand Master, would respectfully recommend that the sum of one hundred dollars be appropriated for that purpose, and that the Grand Recorder be instructed to issue circulars to the several Subordinate Councils in this jurisdiction, asking them to contribute to the same object.

Fraternally submitted,

John D. Williams,)
David F. Day,) Committee.
H. C. Parke,)

The Grand Council then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following named Companions were duly elected:

James McCredie was elected.....Grand Master.
John D. Williams was elected...Dep. Grand Master.
Daniel Wolff was elected.....Grand Ill. Master.
G. Fred. Wiltsie was elected...Grand P. C. of the W.
Josiah Shove was elected.....Grand Recorder.
David B. Howell was elected.....Grand Treasurer.

The above officers were duly installed by M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting.

The Grand Master announced the following appointments:

F. F. Driggs.....Grand C. of the G.
J. B. Chaffee.....Grand Marshal.
Rev. J. G. Webster.....Grand Chaplain.
J. S. Shaw... .....Grand Steward.
Amasa Fuller.....Grand Sentinel.

All of whom were duly installed.

The Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

Foreign Correspondence:—C. Craig, H. C. Parke, J. J. Martin.

Unfinished Business:—William Shelp, Chas. B. Foster, Clinton F. Paige.

Special Finance Committee:—H. F. L. Bunting, Wm. S. Patterson, G. W. Thorn.

Grand Lecturer:—Jackson H. Chase.

On motion, the Grand Recorder was empowered to have two hundred and fifty copies of the Proceedings printed, to be sent in the usual manner to the Subordinate Councils, and our sister Grand Councils.

On motion, the next Annual Assembly was ordered to be held in the city of Albany, on the first Tuesday in February, 1871, at seven o'clock, P. M.

No further business appearing, the Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

RECEIPTS AT ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Columbian Council, No. 1	$26.50
Union Council, No. 2	40.61
Brooklyn Council, No. 4	48.00
Adelphic Council, No. 7	94.75
Central City Council, No. 13	33.00
Bloss Council, No. 14	102.00
Bruce Council, No. 15	22.15
Southern Tier Council, No. 16	68.06
Buffalo Council, No. 17	55.51
King Hiram Council, No. 18	20.50
Doric Council, No. 19	74.37
Keystone Council, No. 20	37.85
Hudson River Council, No. 21	30.50
De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22	58.25
Ontario Council, No. 23	15.00
Binghampton Council, No. 24	25.75
Dunkirk Council, No. 25	42.50
Palmyra Council, No. 26	21.38
Batavia Council, No. 27	14.50
Utica Council, No. 28	19.00
Mohawk Council, No. 29	10.50
Owego Council, No. 30	9.75
King Solomon Council, No. 31	29.75
Chautauqua Council, No. 32	22.75
Olean Council, No. 33	55.12
Pentalpha, U. D., Dues, $9.00; Balance on Warrant, $10.00	19.00
Hornellsville, U. D., Dues, $18.70; Balance on Warrant, $10,	28.70
Watertown, U. D., Dues, $23.25; Balance on Warrant, $10.00,	33.25
Cryptic, U. D., Dues, $5.25; Balance on Warrant, $10.00	15.25
	$1,074.25

Officers of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Number and Name.	Masters.	Deputy Masters.	P. C. of the W.	Recorders.
1 Columbian	Wm. S. Patterson	Philip H. Jacobs	George A. Deyo	William J. Surre
2 Union	Henry C. Parke	Andrew Phillips	William Lawson	Henry Hutchinson
4 Brooklyn	Wm. R. Leonard	Enoch George	H. V. Porter	James N. Phelps
7 Adelphic	George W. Thorn	W. G. Shaw	Frederick Gugel, Jr	Sewall T. Fisk
13 Central City	Austin C. Wood	Abel G. Cook	D. Remington	R. M. Beecher
14 Bloss	Henry B. Harvey	A. W. Richardson	Edward B. Cox	Edward L. Clipperly
15 Bruce	Charles Craig	Jason Collier	Warner H. McCoy	John Hodge
16 Southern Tier	H. W. McIntire	F. D. Ramsdell	E. E. Cleaveland	William H. Brown
17 Buffalo	James McCredie	Henry Waters	C. M. Farrar	S. M. Evry
18 King Hiram	James H. Hoskins	H. M. Drake	L. W. Thorpe	John C. White
19 Doric	Wm. Shelp	L. J. W. Vary	George G. Cooper	John Alexander
20 Keystone	David F. Day	S. M. Ratcliffe	John C. Graves	Christopher G. Fox
21 Hudson River	John P. Curtis	Thomas L. Johnson	John S. Schutt	Robert Loughran
22 DeWitt Clinton	John J. Martin	S. M. Craver	Henry I. Boyle	Charles T. Platto
23 Ontario	W. P. Durrant	John T. Scoon	F. E. Hayes	William N. Smith
24 Binghamton	O. W. Earle	E. N. Gillespy	C. F. Paige	S. E. Washburne
25 Dunkirk	W. H. Wyman	B. Rathbone	Albert H. Libby	M. D. Cushing
26 Palmyra	Mark C. Finley	T. S. Jackson	J. J. White	E. W. Cumings
27 Batavia	H. Bostwick	C. H. Monell	M. W. Hay	E. G. T. Adams
28 Utica	Theo. W. Bolles	Allen R. McKenzie	Charles B. Foster	Thomas J. Griffiths
29 Mohawk	Norris Worth	L. D. Sanborn	Benjamin Coveney	George H. Plantz
30 Owego	Daniel E. Comstock	J. S. Houck	John B. Stanbrough	Charles M. Haywood
31 King Solomon	G. Fred. Wiltsie	E. Blankenhorn	George W. Leonard	Samuel M. Corwin
32 Chautauqua	Anson A. Burlin	Abner Hazeltine	George W. Norton	Samuel Wood
33 Olean	J. S. Shaw	M. B. Fobes	B. E. S. Nason	R. H. Renwick
34 Watertown	Chas. H. Van Brakle	James Johnson	A. H. Sawyer	G. L. Davis
35 Hornellsville	John I. Bentley	Samuel P. Arnett	William H. Badger	G. W. Griswold
36 Pentalpha	Charles W. Brown	Maus R. Vedder	Joseph L. Frame, Jr	S. C. Seaman
37 Cryptic	Charles H. Holden	L. B. Putnam	George H. Gillis	C. E. Durkee

Abstract of Annual Returns of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Council.	Town.	County.	Received and greeted during the year	Affiliated	Dimitted	Stricken from roll	Died	Present membership
1 Columbian	New York	New York	1	1	2	24	2	49
2 Union	New York	New York	12	...	9	.....	1	64
4 Brooklyn	Brooklyn	Kings	12	...	3	.....	1	76
7 Adelphic	New York	New York	9	...	7	5	...	171
13 Central City	Syracuse	Onondaga	.....	...	...	.....	...	66
14 Bloss	Troy	Rensselaer	14	...	11	.....	...	187
15 Bruce	Lockport	Niagara	4	...	...	.....	...	40
16 Southern Tier	Elmira	Chemung	20	...	1	.....	...	112
17 Buffalo	Buffalo	Erie	5	...	...	.....	...	105
18 King Hiram	Auburn	Cayuga	4	...	...	.....	...	35
19 Doric	Rochester	Monroe	10	...	...	1	1	136
20 Keystone	Buffalo	Erie	12	1	...	.....	...	58
21 Hudson River	Rondout	Ulster	14	...	...	.....	...	41
22 DeWitt Clinton	Albany	Albany	23	...	3	2	1	82
23 Ontario	Geneva	Ontario	.....	...	4	1	...	30

24	Binghamton	Binghamton	Broome	3	...	4	...	...	46
25	Dunkirk	Dunkirk	Chautauqua	8	...	18	...	1	81
26	Palmyra	Palmyra	Wayne	4	1	...	...	1	36
27	Batavia	Batavia	Genesee	2	...	...	8	...	26
28	Utica	Utica	Oneida	...	...	...	...	...	19
29	Mohawk	Cohoes	Albany	...	...	5	...	...	21
30	Owego	Owego	Tioga	3	...	...	1	...	18
31	King Solomon	Newburgh	Orange	15	...	...	...	...	52
32	Chautauqua	Jamestown	Chautauqua	11	...	...	...	...	29
33	Olean	Olean	Cattaraugus	39	...	...	...	...	48
34	Watertown	Watertown	Jefferson	14	...	...	...	...	24
35	Hornellsville	Hornellsville	Steuben	19	...	...	...	...	28
36	Pentalpha	Flushing	Queens	8	...	...	...	...	17
37	Cryptic	Saratoga Springs	Saratoga	7	...	...	...	...	16
				273	3	67	42	8	1713

Address of the Grand Masters and Grand Recorders

Of the Grand Councils of the United States

State.	Grand Master.	Address.	Grand Recorder.	Address.
Alabama	Jos. H. Johnson, M. D.	Talladega	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery
Arkansas	Harris Flannigan	Arkadelphia	Luke E. Barber	Little Rock
California	Joseph Isaacs	Shasta	Lawrence C. Owen	San Francisco
Connecticut	Stephen T. Bartlett	Bridgeport	Joseph K. Wheeler	Hartford
Florida	William Morrill	Pensacola	D. L. Oakley	Monticello
Georgia	Stephen D. Head	Augusta	Benjamin B. Russell	Augusta, Box 306
Illinois	John M. Pearson	Godfrey	John C. Reynolds	Springfield
Indiana	William W. Austin	Richmond	John M. Bramwell	Indianapolis
Iowa	Joseph A. Hursh	Iowa City	William B. Langridge	Muscatine
Kansas			O. T. Beeler	Leavenworth
Kentucky	Philip Swigert	Frankfort	A. G. Hodges	Frankfort
Louisiana	Henry R. Swazey	New Orleans	Gustavus Sontag	New Orleans
Maine	Gordon H. Garden	Portland	Ira Berry	Portland
Massachusetts	Charles E. Powers	Boston	Solon Thornton	Boston
Michigan	Charles H. Putnam	Hudson	O. Bourke	Detroit
Mississippi	Morris Cook	Gallatin	Oscar T. Keeler	Columbus
Missouri	George W. Belt	Platte City	Geo. Frank Gonley	St. Louis
New Brunswick	Robert Marshall	St. John	D. R. Munro	St. John
New Hampshire	Thomas J. Sanborn	Concord	Luther W. Nichols	Concord
New Jersey	Marcus Higginbotham	Jersey City	Thomas J. Corson	Trenton
New York	James McCredie	Buffalo	Josiah Shove	Box 3737, New York
North Carolina	Thomas B. Carr	Wilmington	H. H. Munson	Wilmington
Ohio	Charles Brown	Cincinnati	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati
Pennsylvania	Alfred Creigh	Washington	Christian Stolz	Reading
Rhode Island	Charles R. Cutler	Warren	Edward B. Knight	Providence
South Carolina	A. G. Mackey	Charleston	H. W. Schroeder	Charleston
Tennessee	David Cook	Lebanon	John Frizzell	Nashville
Vermont	Edward S. Dana	New Haven	John B. Hollenbeck	Burlington
Wisconsin	J. A. Horlick	Racine	William T. Palmer	Milwaukee

REPRESENTATIVES

NEAR SISTER GRAND COUNCILS.

Josiah H. Drummond, of Portland.....Grand Council of Maine.

Rev. Thomas D. Lawson, of Bastrop.Grand Council of Louisiana.

Rev. Levi H. Corson, of Jonesville..Grand Council of Michigan.

Marcus Higgenbotham, of Jersey City.Grand Council New Jersey.

James L. Gould, of Bridgeport..Grand Council of Connecticut.

D. R. Munro, of St. John.....Grand Council of New Brunswick.

OFFICERS OF GRAND COUNCIL, 1870.

M. P. James McCredie, Buffalo.....Grand Master.

R. P. John D. Williams, Elmira....Dep. Grand Master.

R. P. Daniel Wolff, New York.....Grand Ill. Master.

R. P. G. Fred Wiltsie, Newburgh..Grand P. C. of the W.

R. P. Josiah Shove, Box 3737, New York.Grand Recorder.

R. P. David B. Howell, New York.....Grand Treasurer.

R. P. F. F. Driggs, Dunkirk....Grand C. of the Guard.

R. P. J. B. Chaffee, Binghampton.....Grand Marshal.

R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster, Palmyra..Grand Chaplain.

P. J. S. Shaw, Olean.....Grand Steward.

P. Amasa Fuller, Albany.....Grand Sentinel.

R. P. Jackson H. Chase, Albany.....Grand Lecturer.

[NOTE. The Supplemental Report promised by the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, not having been received at this date (July 1st), the Grand Recorder, by direction of the M. P. Grand Master, is compelled to go to press without it.]

GRAND COUNCIL—ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Grand Council Room,

Albany, Tuesday, Feb. 7th, A. D. 1871, A. Dep. 2871.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York convened in Annual Assembly in the city of Albany, in accordance with a resolution of the last Annual Assembly on Tuesday, February 7th, A. D. 1871, A. Dep. 2871.

M. P. James McCredie.....Grand Master.
R. P. John D. Williams.....Dep. Grand Master.
R. P. G. Fred Wiltsie.....Grand P. C. of the Work.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. David B. Howell.....Grand Treasurer.
R. P. F. F. Driggs.....Grand C. of the Guard.
R. P. J. B. Chaffee.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster.....Grand Chaplain.
P. J. S. Shaw.....Grand Steward.
P. Amasa Fuller .....Grand Sentinel.
R. P. Jackson H. Chase.....Grand Lecturer.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Columbian, No. 1,
Union, No. 2,
Brooklyn, No. 4,
Adelphic, No. 7,
Central City, No. 13,
Bloss, No. 14,
Bruce, No. 15,
Southern Tier, No. 16,
Buffalo, No. 17,
King Hiram, No. 18,
Doric, No. 19,
Keystone, No. 20,
Hudson River, No. 21,
De Witt Clinton, No. 22,
Ontario, No. 23,
Binghampton, No. 24,
Dunkirk, No. 25,
Palmyra, No. 26,
Utica, No. 28,
Mohawk, No. 29,
Owego, No. 30,
King Solomon, No. 31,
Chautauqua, No. 32,
Olean, No. 33,
Watertown, No. 34,
Hornellsville, No. 35,
Pentalpha, No. 36,
Cryptic, No. 37.

M. P. Henry F. L. Bunting.....P. G. M.
R. P. John Hoole .....P. D. G. M.
T. Ill. H. B. Harvey.....P. M., Bloss, No. 14.
T. Ill. John J. Martin. P. M., DeWitt Clinton, No. 22.
T. Ill. J. W. Morange.....P. M.
T. Ill. E. H. Parker....P. M., King Solomon, No. 31.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form.

On motion of M. P. Comp. H. F. L. Bunting, it was

Resolved, That all Companion Select Masters in good standing be invited to take seats as visitors in this Grand Council.

M. P. Comp. James McCredie, Grand Master, then delivered the following address.

THE ADDRESS.

Cryptic Companions:

So silently and swiftly does time pursue his ceaseless course, that it is difficult to realize that another year has passed away since we separated in this hall, and by the graciousness of our Supreme Grand Master are again permitted to meet in Annual Assembly to review the labors of the past, and to lay our plans and designs for the coming year. Precedent, as well as duty, requires your Grand Master at this time, to render an account of his stewardship and to make such suggestions as time and experience may have brought to his observation, that in his judgment would be calculated to promote the good of Cryptic Masonry.

It gives me great pleasure, Companions, and I know that you will share those feelings with me, that no discordant notes of difficulties among the workmen have reached me during the past year, but that all are working harmoniously—a conclusive proof that the beautiful teachings of our ritual are well understood and practised throughout our jurisdiction.

The past year has been one of general prosperity to the fraternity, and particularly to our own special branch of the Order; and should its growth so continue, but a few years will be necessary to settle in a quiet and peaceful way, the question of where our position is in the Masonic family.

Since our last Assembly, I have had the satisfaction of issuing a larger number of Dispensations to form new Councils of Royal and Select Masters, than have been issued in any one year since the formation of this Grand Council, and I believe that the Companions who have thus assumed new and additional responsibilities, are of sufficient skill and ability to aid us materially in the labors of the Secret Vault.

On the 25th of March, I issued letters of Dispensation to T. Ill. Wm. E. Woodward, Master; Rt. Ill. George D. Norman, Deputy Master; Ill. Martin L. Edgett, Principal Conductor of the Work, and six other Companions, to form Seneca Council of Watkins, Schuyler County.

On the 14th of April, I issued letters of Dispensation to T. Ill. Everard D. Ferguson, Master; Rt. Ill. Andrew J. Tucker, Deputy Master;Ill. Anthony J. B. Ross, Principal Conductor of the Work, and eight other Companions to form Northern Light Council at Essex, Essex County.

On the 15th of April, I issued letters of Dispensation to T. Ill. O. West Lackey, Master; Rt. Ill. Willis E. Craig, Deputy Master; Ill. E. S. Smead, Principal Conductor of the Work, and eight other Companions, to form Bath Council, at Bath, Steuben County.

On the 15th of April, I issued letters of Dispensation to T. Ill. James T. Isham, Master; Rt. Ill. John D. Serviss, Deputy Master; Ill. John E. Snell, Principal Conductor of the Work, and ten other Companions, to form Wadsworth Council at Amsterdam, Montgomery County.

On the 25th day of April, I issued letters of Dispensation to T. Ill. A. Oppenheimer, Master; R. Ill. G. M. Osgoodby, Deputy Master; Ill. B. S. Coffin, Principal Conductor of the Work, and six other Companions, to form Genesee Valley Council, at Nunda, Genesee County.

On the 27th of May, I issued letters of Dispensation to T. Ill. John L. Ellithorp, Master; Rt. Ill. George H. Watson, Deputy Master; Ill. John L. Earll, Principal Conductor of the Work, and nine other Companions, to form Canajoharie Council at Canajoharie, Montgomery County.

On the 23rd of August, I issued letters of Dispensation to T. Ill. Samuel P. Bailey, Master; Rt. Ill. George N. Webb, Deputy Master; Ill. Henry P. Gregory, Principal Conductor of the Work, and eight other Companions, to form Tyrian Council, at Plattsburgh, Clinton County.

On the 15th of November, I issued letters of Dispensation to T. Ill. Charles E. Hudson, Master; Rt. Ill. John C. McKenzie, Deputy Master; Ill. James T. Gordon, Principal Conductor of the Work, and seven other Companions, to form Alanson Brown Council at Lima, Livingston County.

On the 19th of December, I issued letters of Dispensation to T. Ill. Rufus C. Doubleday, Master; Rt. Ill. Jerome Fish, Deputy Master; Ill. Frederick A. Goffe, Principal Conductor of the Work, and twelve other Companions to form Otsego Council, at Cooperstown, Otsego County.

On the 5th of January, 1871, I issued letters of Dispensation to T. Ill. Robert S. Atwell, Master; Rt. Ill. Charles E. Washburn,

Deputy Master; Ill. Richard N. Atwell, Principal Conductor of the Work, and eight other Companions, to form Zabud Council, at Schuylerville, Saratoga County.

In all Dispensations granted I have no doubt the Companions will present such evidence of their proficiency as will induce you to grant them Warrants of Constitution.

In connection with this, I desire here to say, that to the zeal of our Rt. P. Grand Lecturer Jackson H. Chase, are we indebted for this large increase to our ranks this year. In the performance of his duties as Grand Lecturer of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter he has been enabled to be of this great service to the Order, and has improved the opportunity of planting Cryptic Masonry in those parts of our jurisdiction where otherwise it would probably be years before we should be enabled to establish Councils.

I wish to bring before this Assembly, for its consideration, what I think is of vital importance to its well-being, and that is the short time we have to transact its business. We have heretofore met on the evening of the first Tuesday in February, at the time the Grand Royal Arch Chapter has appointed for its Annual Convocation, and occupying the same hall, thus giving this Grand Council but a few hours to transact its business, which is increasing each succeeding year, and which now should require days instead of hours to do justice to the various matters that are brought before it. The inconvenience and hasty legislation which has been transacted under the circumstances makes the necessity and desirableness of some change in this respect apparent to all.

Another matter I have thought important to bring to your attention, and that is, that some permanent and regular system should be adopted by this Grand Council of paying its Officers and Representatives. For many years our financial condition was such as would not allow us to do so, and there was not then the necessity that they should receive pay for their attendance, as all or nearly all the Representatives to the Grand Council were also Representatives or Officers of the Grand Chapter, and were quite willing to serve here without the hope of fee or reward, except such as a good conscience would reward them with.

In 1866, the Grand Council by resolution then, and from year to year since, voted a liberal sum from its increasing funds to its members. We have now arrived to that position both in members and financial strength at which some permanent provision can safely be made for that purpose.

I think the effect would be to always insure us a full representation from the Subordinate Councils, without regard to their being at the same time Representatives to any other Body, and

would place this Grand Council in that independent position which properly belongs to it.

The subject of making the Council degrees a prerequisite for the Orders of Knighthood, is receiving attention in the different Grand Councils, and has been fully discussed by many of them and all express the opinion, that should the change be adopted by the different Grand Commanderies, or by the Grand Encampment, it would be of full as much benefit to Chivalric Masonry, as it would to our own Order. I fully agree in the opinion of my predecessor, as expressed in his Address last year: "That we devote ourselves with zeal to strengthen our own household, to increase the number of the faithful, and by these means to make ourselves a power in the Craft that will be recognized at its proper value when it has no favors to ask, and is sufficient unto itself."

In looking back to our proceedings of 1859, I find that there were but three Subordinate Councils that year represented in Grand Council, viz.: Brooklyn, No. 4, Adelphic, No. 7, and Eureka, No. 8.

At our last Assembly there were thirty Councils represented, with a membership of 1,713 members, with ten Dispensations granted to form new Councils the past year, I would ask the Companions if this is not encouragement for us to look for bright prospects for the future and not to be over-anxious to be made a prerequisite.

At the coming meeting of the General Grand Encampment at Baltimore, next September, it is expected that there will be a convention of Representatives of the State Grand Councils for general consultation, and I would call the attention of the Grand Council to the fact that they may, if deemed advisable, appoint some one to represent this Grand Council on that occasion.

Ontario Council, No. 23, at Geneva, was so unfortunate the past summer as to lose their properties, including their Warrant, by fire. I have granted them a Dispensation to continue their labor until this Annual Assembly. They will make application to you for a duplicate Warrant, which, I recommend be granted them.

And now, Ill. Companions, permit me to tender my grateful acknowledgments for the great honor you have conferred upon me in having elected me to a position unsolicited and unexpected, yet none the less appreciated, and which with many fears and doubts I accepted, feeling my inability to occupy a station that has been so ably filled by others, and I now surrender the trust to you, that you may place it in the hands of some abler Companion but none, believe me, who more earnestly desires the welfare of Cryptic Masonry.

JAMES McCREDIE.

On motion of T. Ill. Comp. H. C. Parke, the address was referred to a commitee of three, to apportion the subjects therein treated of to appropriate Committees.

The Grand Master appointed as the Committee:—Henry C. Parke, John B. Stanbrough, Rev. J. G. Webster.

The Grand Recorder and the Grand Treasurer then presented their Annual Reports and, on motion, they were received and referred to the Finance Committee.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Grand Recorder presents the following Annual Report of the receipts of the past year:

1870.	Feb.	5.	Receipts at last Annual Assembly	$1,074.25
	Mar.	31.	Dispensation to form Seneca Council	20.00
	Apr.	25.	Dispensation to form Northern Light Council	20.00
	Apr.	25.	Dispensation to form Konhocton Council	20.00
	Apr.	25.	Dispensation to form Wadsworth Council	20.00
	May	2.	Dispensation to form Genesee Valley Council	20.00
	June	29.	Dispensation to form Canajoharie Council	20.00
	Aug.	25.	Dispensation to form Tyrian Council	20.00
	Nov.	16.	Dispensation to form Alanson Brown Council	20.00
	Dec.	20.	Dispensation to form Otsego Council	20.00
1871.	Jan.	6.	Dispensation to form Zabud Council	20.00
	Feb.	2.	17 Seals affixed to Certificates	8.50
			Total receipts during year	$1,282.75

All of which has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, and his receipt taken therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

New York, February 7th, 1871. J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Treasurer offers the following Annual Report:

1870.	Feb.	1.	Received from the late Grand Treasurer		$292.18
	Feb.	1.	Received from the late Grand Recorder		1074.25
1871.	Feb.	2.	Received from the late Grand Recorder		208.50
	Feb.	2.	Received from Interest		17.52
					$1592.45
1870.	Feb.	2.	Paid Warrants 174 to 212	$865.20	
	July	12.	Paid Warrants 213	112.07	
					977.27
			Balance on hand		$615.18

New York, Feb. 2, 1871. D. B. HOWELL, Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Master then announced the appointment of the following Committees:—

Credentials and Returns:—Jackson H. Chase, W. G. Shaw, Josiah Shove.

Warrants and Dispensations:—G. Fred. Wiltsie, T. D. Ramsdell, C. H Van Brakle.

Constitution and By-Laws:—Clinton F. Paige, J. B. Chaffee, H. W. Karn.

Grievances and Appeals:—R. G. Williams, F. F. Driggs, H. B. Luther.

Finance:—H. F. L. Bunting, William Shelp, B. Rathburn.

The Committee on the Address of the Grand Master, presented the following report, and, on motion, it was received and accepted, and its recommendations were adopted:

To the M. P. G. Council of the State of New York:

The Special Committee to whom was referred the Address of the M. P. Grand Master, beg leave respectfully to report:

That they have given the same all the attention which the limited time allotted to them permitted, and its importance demands:

First. Your Committee would recommend that so much of said Address as relates to Councils U. D., be referred to the Committee on Warrants and Dispensations.

Second. With regard to that portion relating to the Annual Assemblies of the Grand Council, your committee fully agree with the M. P. G. M. in deprecating the short time allowed for the transaction of its business. The constantly increasing number of Companions and Councils demand an extension of that time. They would recommend that that subject be referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

Third. They would also recommend that so much of the Address as relates to pay of members and Representatives be referred to the Finance Committee.

Fourth. Also, that so much as relates to the expected forthcoming meeting of the Grand Councils of the several Grand Jurisdictions, be referred to the Grand Council.

Fifth. And that so much as relates to the loss by fire of the Warrant of Ontario Council be referred to the Committee on Warrants and Dispensations.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. C. Parke,
John B. Stanbrough,
J. C. Webster.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented their report, and, on motion, it was received, and the committee was discharged.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

The Committee on Credentials and Returns report that the following Councils have made correct returns and paid dues, and their Representatives are entitled to seats in this Grand Council:

Columbian, No. 1.....W. S. Paterson, M.
Union, No. 2.....H. C. Parke, Proxy.
Brooklyn, No. 4.....H. W. Karn, M.
Adelphic, No. 7 { .....W. G. Shaw, M.
...J. F. Ferguson, P. C. of W.
Central City, No. 13...Richard H. Parker, Proxy.
Bloss, No. 14.....Edward B. Cox, M.
Bruce, No. 15.....Jason Collier, Dep. M.
Southern Tier, No. 16.....F. D. Ramsdell, M.
Buffalo, No. 17.....Jas. McCredie, M.
King Hiram, No. 18.....J. H. Hoskins, M.
Doric, No. 19.....Wm. Shelp, M.
Keystone, No. 20.....D. F. Day, M.
Hudson River, No. 21.....H. B. Luther, Proxy.
De Witt Clinton, No. 22 { .....J. H. Chase, M.
...H. J. Bogle, Dep. M.
W. E. Fitch, P. C. of W.
Ontario, No. 23.....W. P. Durrant, M.
Binghampton, No. 24 { .....C. F. Paige, M.
J. B. Chaffee, P. C. of W.
Dunkirk, No. 25.....B. Rathbun, M.
Palmyra, No. 26.....M. C. Finley, M.
Utica, No. 28 { .....Wm. R. Holden, Dep. M.
.....Geo. E. Allen, P. C. of W.
Mohawk, No. 29.....L. D. Sanborn, Dep. M.
Owego, No. 30.....John B Stanbrough, M.
King Solomon, No. 31 { ...Geo. W. Leonard, M.
E. Blankenhorn, Dep. M.
Chautauqua, No. 32.....C. S. Hazeltine, M.
Olean, No. 33.....J. S. Shaw, M.
Watertown, No. 34.....C. H. Van Brakle, M.
Hornellsville, No. 35 { .....J. I. Bentley, M.
W. H. Badger, P. C. of W.
Pentalpha, No 36.....J. L. Frame, jr., M.
Cryptic, No. 37

And that the following Councils under Dispensation have made returns and paid dues:

Seneca, U. D.....Geo. D. Norman, Dep. M.
Northern Light, U. D.....E. D. Ferguson, M.
Wadsworth, U. D.....John D. Serviss, M.
Konhocton, U. D.....O. W. Lackey, M
Genesee Valley, U. D.....A. Oppenheimer, M.
Canajoharie, U. D.....———
Tyrian, U. D.....———

Alanson Brown, U. D.....C. G. Hudson, M.
Otsego, U. D.....R. C. Doubleday, M.
Zabud, U. D.....R. S. Atwell, M.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. Chase,
W. G. Shaw,
Josiah Shove.

The Committee on Unfinished Business reported that no subject had been brought before them requiring any action on their part, or on that of the Grand Council; and, on motion, the report was received and the Committee discharged. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence offered the following Annual Report, and also Supplemental Report, due last year, which were, on motion, received and ordered spread at length on the minutes.

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations presented the following report, and, on motion, it was received, the recommendations therein contained were adopted, and the committee was discharged.

Your Committee on Warrants would respectfully report that they have examined the returns of the following Councils under Dispensation and would recommend that Warrants be granted as follows:

To Companions Wm. E. Woodward, M.; Geo. D. Norman, D. M.; Martin L. Edgett, P. C. of the W.; and their associates, to be styled Seneca Council, No. 38, to be holden at Watkins, Schuyler County, N. Y.

To Companions Everard D. Ferguson, M.; Andrew J. Tucker, D. M.; Anthony J. B. Ross, P. C. of W.; and their associates, to be styled Northern Light Council, No. 39, to be holden at Essex, Essex County, N. Y.

To Companions O. West Lackey, M.; W. H. Shepard, D. M.; E. S. Smead, P. C. of W.; and their associates, to be styled Konhocton Council, No. 40, to be holden at Bath, Steuben County.

To Companions A. Oppenheimer, M.; G. M. Osgoodby, D. M.; B. S. Coffin, P. C. of the W.; and their associates, to be styled Genesee Valley Council, No. 41, to be holden at Nunda, Livingston County.

To Companions John L. Ellithorp, M.; Geo. H. Watson, D. M.; John L. Earle P. C. of W.; and their associates, to be styled Canajoharie Council, No. 42, to be holden at Canajoharie, Montgomery County.

To Companions Silas W. Gregory, M.; Geo. N. Webb, D. M.; Henry P. Gregory, P. C. of W.; and their associates, to be styled Tyrian Council, No. 43, to be holden at Plattsburgh, Clinton County, N. Y.

To Companions Chas. G. Hudson, M.; John C. McKenzie, D. M.; James T. Gordon, P. C. of W.; and their associates, to be styled Alanson Brown Council, No. 44, to be holden at Lima, Livingston County.

To Companions Rufus C. Doubleday, M.; Jerome Fish, D. M.; Fred. A. Goffe, P. C. of W.; and their associates, to be styled Otsego Council, No. 45, to be holden at Cooperstown, Otsego County, N. Y.

To Companions Robt. S. Atwell, M.; Chas. E. Washburn, D. M.; Richard H. Atwell, P. C. of W.; and their associates, to be styled Zabud Council, No. 46, to be holden at Schuylersville, Saratoga County.

To Companions John D. Serviss, M.; Johnson I. Snell, D. M.; James Denton, P. C. of W.; and their associates, to be styled Wadsworth Council,No. 47, to be holden at Amsterdam, Montgomery County.

Your Committee would also recommend that a duplicate Warrant be granted to Ontario Council, No. 23, at Geneva, to replace the one destroyed by fire.

G. Fred. Wiltsie,
F. D. Ramsdell, } Committee.
C. H. Van Brackle,

The Committee on Constitution and By-Laws reported as follows, and, on motion, the report was received and the recommendations adopted.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters:

The Committee on Constitution and By-Laws beg leave to report that they have duly considered the subject of the short period allowed for the transactions of this Grand Council, and would recommend that the Annual Assembly shall be held on the evenings of the first Tuesday and succeeding Wednesday in each year.

C. F. Paige,
J. B. Chaffee, } Committee.
H. W. Karn,

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals reported that no business had been brought before them, and, on motion, the report was received and accepted, and the committee was discharged.

On motion of R. P. Comp. Wiltsie, it was resolved that the Subordinate Councils be directed to prepare their annual returns, and send them to the Grand Recorder on or before January 15th, in each year.

The Finance Committee presented the following report, which was, on motion received and its recommendations were adopted.

To the Most Puisasnt Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Finance to whom was referred the reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, would beg leave respectfully to report, that they have carefully examined the said reports and the vouchers accompanying them, and that they find the same correct.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Henry F. L. Bunting,
William Shelp,
Byron Rathburn,
} Finance Committee.

Your Committee recommend, in view of the state of the funds of this Grand Council, that the sum of five cents per mile, by the usual travelled route (going and returning), together with five dollars per day for one day's services, be paid to the Officers and Representatives of this Grand Council.

They would also recommend that the sum of one hundred dollars be paid to the Grand Recorder for his services, during the past year , and that the sum of ten dollars be paid to the Grand Sentinel for his services and attendance at the present assembly of the Grand Council.

They also recommend that the sum of twenty-five dollars be paid to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for services and expenses of that committee.

They further recommend that the sum of fifty dollars be paid to Jackson H. Chase for his services as Grand Lecturer.

All of which is most fraternally submitted,

Henry F. L. Bunting,
William Shelp,
} Finance Committee.

On motion of R. P. John D. Williams, the Grand Treasurer was directed to pay M. P. Comp. H. F. L. Bunting, P. G. M., and R. P. Comp. John Hoole P. D. G. M., the same mileage and per diem as the Representatives of the Subordinate Councils and present Grand Officers receive.

The Grand Council then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following named Companions were duly elected:—

M. P. James McCredie.....Grand Master.
R. P. John D. Williams.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. Daniel Wolff.....Grand Ill. Master.
R. P. G. Fred. Wiltsie.....Grand P. C. of the Work.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. David B. Howell.....Grand Treasurer.

All of whom were installed by M. P. Comp. Henry F. L. Bunting, in Ample Form.

The Grand Master announced the following appointments:—

R. P. F. F. Driggs.....Grand C. of the G.
R. P. J. B. Chaffee.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster.....Grand Chaplain.
P. J. S. Shaw.....Grand Steward.
P. Amasa Fuller.....Grand Sentinel.

The above officers were duly installed.

On motion, the Grand Master and Grand Recorder were authorized to procure suitable hangings for the jewels worn by the officers of this Grand Council.

On motion, it was resolved that the Grand Master be authorized to represent this Grand Council at the proposed meeting of the Grand Councils, to be held at Baltimore, with power to appoint a substitute, and that he be empowered to draw on the Grand Treasurer for his expenses.

On motion, the Recorder was authorized to have 350 copies of the Proceedings printed, and to send them in the usual manner to the Subordinate Councils and to our sister Grand Councils.

The Grand Master appointed the following committees:

Foreign Correspondence:—Charles Craig, Jason Collier, H. C. Parke.

Unfinished Business:—Wm. Shelp, George M. Osgoodby, G. W. Leonard.

Special Finance Committee:—H. F. L. Bunting, W. S. Paterson, W. G. Shaw.

Grand Lecturer:—Jackson H. Chase.

No further business appearing, the minutes were read and approved, and the Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

RECEIPTS AT THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Columbian Council, No. 1				$ 25.00
Union, No. 2				29.95
Brooklyn, No. 4				43.50
Adelphic, No. 7				122.50
Central City, No. 13				32.50
Bloss, No. 14				107.50
Bruce, No. 15				20.00
Southern Tier, No. 16				78.03
Buffalo, No. 17				54.36
King Hiram, No. 18				12.50
Doric, No. 19				90.50
Keystone, No. 20				50.80
Hudson River, No. 21				21.75
De Witt Clinton, No. 22				58.00
Ontario, No. 23				11.50
Binghampton, No. 24				24.50
Dunkirk, No. 25				44.00
Palmyra, No. 26				25.21
Utica, No. 28				78.53
Mohawk, No. 29				14.50
Owego, No. 30				25.25
King Solomon, No. 31				37.75
Chautauqua, No. 32				15.25
Olean, No. 33				32.03
Watertown, No. 34				16.50
Hornellsville, No. 35				20.00
Pantalpha, No. 36				8.50
Cryptic, No. 37				33.00
Seneca, U. D.	Dues,	$22.32	Balance on Warrant, $10.00	32.32
Northern Light	Dues,	13.50	Balance on Warrant, $10.00	23.50
Konhocton	Dues,	25.16	Balance on Warrant, $10.00	35.16
Genesee Valley	Dues,	15.63	Balance on Warrant, $10.00	25.63
Canajoharie	Dues,	9.00	Balance on Warrant, $10.00	19.00
Tyrian	Dues,	9.00	Balance on Warrant, $10.00	19.00
Alanson Brown	Dues,	10.50	Balance on Warrant, $10.00	20.50
Otsego	Dues,	11.25	Balance on Warrant, $10.00	21.25
Zabud	Dues,	7.50	Balance on Warrant, $10.00	17.50
Wadsworth,	Dues,	9.00	Balance on Warrant, $10.00	19.00
				$1,366.27

Abstract of Annual Returns of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Council.	Town.	County.	Received and greeted during the year	Affiliated	Restored	Dimitted	Stricken from roll	Died	Present membership
1 Columbian	New York	New York	...	...	3	1	6	...	46
2 Union	New York	New York	1	...	...	...	7	...	58
4 Brooklyn	Brooklyn	Kings	8	...	...	2	...	1	83
7 Adelphic	New York	New York	43	1	...	10	...	2	203
13 Central City	Syracuse	Onondaga	...	...	...	1	...	...	65
14 Bloss	Troy	Rensselaer	26	...	1	18	...	2	194
15 Bruce	Lockport	Niagara	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
16 Southern Tier	Elmira	Chemung	29	...	...	24	...	...	117
17 Buffalo	Buffalo	Erie	2	...	...	1	...	...	106
18 King Hiram	Auburn	Cayuga	...	...	...	4	6	...	25
19 Doric	Rochester	Monroe	20	...	...	...	1	1	154
20 Keystone	Buffalo	Erie	21	1	...	1	...	1	78
21 Hudson River	Rondout	Ulster	2	...	...	...	...	1	42
22 DeWitt Clinton	Albany	Albany	16	...	...	3	...	3	92
23 Ontario	Geneva	Ontario	...	...	...	3	...	1	23

24	Binghamton	Binghamton	Broome							49
25	Dunkirk	Dunkirk	Chautauqua	7			5		2	81
26	Palmyra	Palmyra	Wayne	7			1			43
27	Batavia (no return)	Batavia	Genesee							
28	Utica	Utica	Oneida	55	2				2	74
29	Mohawk	Cohoes	Albany	6					1	26
30	Owego	Owego	Tioga	19						37
31	King Solomon	Newburgh	Orange	17			1		1	67
32	Chautauqua	Jamestown	Chautauqua	1						30
33	Olean	Olean	Cattaraugus	10	1			1	1	57
34	Watertown	Watertown	Jefferson	4					1	27
35	Hornellsville	Hornellsville	Steuben	6					2	32
36	Pentalpha	Flushing	Queens							17
37	Cryptic	Saratoga Springs	Saratoga	20						37
38	Seneca	Watkins	Schuyler	19						27
39	Northern Light	Essex	Essex	18						18
40	Konhocton	Bath	Steuben	21					1	29
41	Genesee Valley	Nunda	Livingston	15						16
42	Canajoharie	Canajoharie	Montgomery	9						12
43	Tyrian	Plattsburgh	Clinton	12						12
44	Alanson Brown	Lima	Livingston	14						17
45	Otsego	Cooperstown	Otsego	15						15
46	Zabud	Schuylersville	Saratoga	10						11
47	Wadsworth	Amsterdam	Montgomery	12						12
				465	5	4	75	24	23	2072

Officers of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Number and Name.	Masters.	Deputy Masters.	P. C. of the W.	Recorders.
1 Columbian	Wm. S. Patterson	Philip H. Jacobs	George A. Deyo	William J. Surre
2 Union	John F. Baldwin	Andrew Phillips	John S. King	Henry C. Parke
4 Brooklyn	H. W. Karn	E. S. Knapp	Robert Leeds	James N. Phelps
7 Adelphic	W. G. Shaw	J. H. Corrin	J. F. Ferguson	Sewall T. Fisk
13 Central City	Orrin Welch	Abel G. Cook	De Est'g Remington	R. M. Beecher
14 Bloss	Edward B. Cox	William R. Hyde	Alexander B. King	Edward L. Clipperly
15 Bruce	Charles Craig	Jason Collier	Warner H. McCoy	John Hodge
16 Southern Tier	F. D. Ramsdell	F. E. Cleaveland	J. A. Bundy	William H. Browne
17 Buffalo	James McCredie	Wm. H. Baker	William H. Dee	E. D. W. Gager
18 King Hiram	James S. Hoskins	L. Lombard	T. B. Barber	John C. White
19 Doric	Wm. Shelp	George Hamblett	Henry M. Plant	John Alexander
20 Keystone	David F. Day	S. M. Ratcliffe	William B. Flint	Christopher G. Fox
21 Hudson River	John P. Curtis	Thomas L. Johnston	Andrew S. Schutt	Howard Cockburn
22 DeWitt Clinton	Jackson H. Chase	Henry J. Bogle	William E. Fitch	Charles T. Platto
23 Ontario	Wm. P. Durant	John S. Scoon	William E. Hayes	William N. Smith
24 Binghamton	Clinton F. Paige	Orlando W. Earle	Joseph B. Chaffee	George L. Lawyer
25 Dunkirk	Byron Rathbun	A. H. Libby	Elijah Harris	M. D. Cushing

26	Palmyra	Mark C. Finley	Timothy S. Jackson	Josiah J. White	E. W. Cumings
27	Batavia				
28	Utica	Theod. W. Bolles	Wm. R. Holden	George E. Allen	Thomas H. Floyd
29	Mohawk	Morris North	L. D. Sanborn	Joseph Chadwick	Charles S. Langley
30	Owego	John B. Stanbrough	John S. Houck	Joseph S. DeWitt	Chas. M. Haywood
31	King Solomon	George W. Leonard	E. Blankenhorn	Ed'd T. Skidmore	S. W. Corwin
32	Chautauqua	Charles S. Hazeltine	Robert I. Baker	L. L. Mason	Samuel Wood
33	Olean	J. S. Shaw	C. H. Stowell	S. W. Crawford	Robert M. Renwick
34	Watertown	Chas. H. VanBrakle	C. W. Clark	F. C. Chittenden	John T. Ross
35	Hornellsville	John J. Bentley	S. P. Arnett	Wm. H. Badger	A. G. Howard
36	Pentalpha	Joseph L. Frame, Jr.	John Warren	J. W. Quarterman	S. C. Seaman
37	Cryptic	C. H. Sturges	C. H. Holden	George H. Gillis	J. E. Walker
38	Seneca	W. E. Woodward	George D. Norman	Martin L. Edgett	Samuel W. Cass
39	Northern Light	E. D. Ferguson	Andrew J. Tucker	Anthony J. B. Ross	David E. Field
40	Konhocton	O. West Lackey	W. H. Shepard	E. S. Smead	V. Brother
41	Genesee Valley	A. Oppenheimer	G. W. Osgoodby	B. S. Coffin	
42	Canajoharie	John L. Ellithorp	George H. Watson	John L. Earle	
43	Tyrian	Silas W. Gregory	George N. Webb	Henry P. Gregory	B. M. Beckwith
44	Alanson Brown	C. G. Hudson	John C. McKenzie	James T. Gordon	Franklin Carter
45	Otsego	Rufus C. Doubleday	Jerome Fish	Fred'k. A. Goffe	H. L. Hinman
46	Zabud	Robert S. Atwell	Chas. E. Washburn	Richard H. Atwell	E. Doolittle
47	Wadsworth	John D. Serviss	Johnson I. Snell	James Denton	

Address of the Grand Masters and Grand Recorders

Of the Grand Councils of the United States

State.	Grand Master.	Address.	Grand Recorder.	Address.
Alabama	Joseph H. Johnson	Talladega	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery
Arkansas	George A. Dannelly	Searcy	Luke E. Barber	Little Rock
California	Joseph Isaacs	Shasta	Lawrence C. Owen	San Francisco
Connecticut	Charles W. Stearns	Middletown	J. K. Wheeler	Hartford
Florida	William Morrill	Pensacola	D. L. Oakley	Monticello
Georgia	Jos. E. Wells		Chas. R. Armstrong	Augusta
Illinois	William M. Avise	Quincy	John C. Reynolds	Springfield
Indiana	William W. Austin	Richmond	John M. Bramwell	Indianapolis
Iowa	Benjamin Crabb	Washington	W. B. Langridge	Muscatine
Kansas	R. R. Rees	Leavenworth	O. T. Beeler	Leavenworth
Kentucky	Philip Swigert	Frankfort	A. G. Hodges	Frankfort
Louisiana	Henry R. Swazey	New Orleans	Gustavus Sontag	New Orleans
Maine	Gordon R. Garden	Portland	Ira Berry	Portland
Massachusetts	Charles E. Powers	Boston	Solon Thornton	Boston
Michigan	Oliver T. Spaulding	St. Johns	Oliver Bourke	Detroit
Mississippi	Morris Cook	Gallatin	Oscar T. Keeler	Columbus
Missouri	Martin Collins	St. Louis	George Frank Gonley	St. Louis
New Brunswick, Can.	Jos. C. Hatheway	St. John	D. R. Munro	St. John
New Hampshire	Thomas J. Sanborn	Concord	Abel Hutchins	Concord
New Jersey	E. Goeller	Newark	Thomas J. Corson	Trenton
New York	James McCredie	Buffalo	Josiah Shove	Box 3737, New York
North Carolina	Thomas B. Carr	Wilmington	M. M. Katz	Wilmington
Ohio	Jos. R. Conrad	Atwater	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati
Pennsylvania	C. F. Knapp	Bloomsburg	Thomas W. Wright	Pittsburg
Rhode Island	Charles R. Cutler	Warren	Edward B. Knight	Providence
South Carolina	Albert G. Mackey	Charleston	Henry W. Schroeder	Charleston
Tennessee	Wilbur F. Foster	Nashville	John Frizzell	Nashville
Vermont	Edward S. Dana	Middlebury	John B. Hollenbeck	Burlington
Wisconsin	J. A. Horlick	Racine	William T. Palmer	Milwaukee

REPRESENTATIVES

NEAR SISTER GRAND COUNCILS.

Josiah H. Drummond of Portland.....Grand Council of Maine.

Rev. Thomas D. Lawson of Bastrop...Grand Council of Louisiana.

Rev. Levi H. Corson of Jonesville....Grand Council of Michigan.

Marcus Higgenbotham of Jersey City.Grd. Council of New Jersey.

James L. Gould of Bridgeport.....Grand Council of Connecticut.

D. R. Munro of St. John.....Grand Council of New Brunswick.

OFFICERS OF GRAND COUNCIL, 1871.

M. P. James McCredie, Buffalo.....Grand Master.

R. P. John D. Williams, Elmira.....Dep. Grand Master.

R. P. Daniel Wolff, New York.....Grand Ill. Master.

R. P. G. Fred. Wiltsie, Newburgh.Grand P. C. of the W.

R. P. Josiah Shove, Box 3737, New York.Grand Recorder.

R. P. David B. Howell, New York....Grand Treasurer.

R. P. F. F. Driggs, Dunkirk.....Grand C. of the Guard.

R. P. J. B. Chaffee, Binghampton.....Grand Marshal.

R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster, Palmyra..Grand Chaplain.

P. J. S. Shaw, Olean.....Grand Steward.

P. Amasa Fuller, Albany.....Grand Sentinel.

R. P. Jackson H. Chase, Albany.....Grand Lecturer.

GRAND COUNCIL.

Annual Assembly—Grand Council Room.

Albany, Tuesday, Feb. 6th, A. D. 1872, A. Dep. 2872.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York convened in Annual Assembly in the city of Albany, in accordance with a resolution of the last Annual Assembly, on Tuesday, February 6th, A. D. 1872, A. Dep. 2872. Present:

M. P. James McCredie.....Grand Master.
R. P. John D. Williams.....Dep. Grand Master.
R. P. G. Fred. Wiltsie....Grand P. C. of the Work.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. David B. Howell.....Grand Treasurer.
R. P. F. F. Driggs.....Grand C. of the Guard.
R. P. J. B. Chaffee.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster.....Grand Chaplain.
———..... Grand Steward.
P. Amasa Fuller.....Grand Sentinel.
R. P. Jackson H. Chase.....Grand Lecturer.

And the Representatives of the following Councils:

Columbian, No. 1,
Union, No. 2,
Brooklyn, No. 4,
Adelphic No. 7,
Bloss, No. 14,
Bruce, No. 15,
Southern Tier, No. 16,
Buffalo, No. 17,
King Hiram, No. 18,
Doric, No. 19,
Keystone, No. 20,
Hudson River, No. 21,
De Witt Clinton, No. 22,
Ontario, No. 23,
Binghampton, No. 24,
Dunkirk, No. 25,
Palmyra, No. 26,
Utica, No. 28,
Mohawk, No. 29,
Owego, No. 30,
King Solomon, No. 31,
Chautauqua, No. 32,
Olean, No. 33,
Watertown, No. 34,
Hornellsville, No. 35,
Pentalpha, No. 36,
Cryptic, No. 37,
Seneca, No. 38,
Northern Light, No. 39,
Konhocton, No. 40,
Genesee Valley, No. 41,
Canajoharie, No. 42,
Alanson Brown, No. 44,
Otsego, No. 45,
Zabud, No. 46,
Wadsworth, No. 47.

M. P. John Hoole, P. D. G. M., T: Ill: H: B. Harvey, P. M., Bloss, No. 14, T. Ill. H. E. Gilbert, P. M., Adelphic, No. 7.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form.

On motion of M. P. Comp. John Hoole, it was

Resolved, That all Companions Select Masters in good standing be invited to take seats as visitors in this Grand Council.

M. P. Comp. James McCredie, Grand Master, then delivered the following address:

THE ADDRESS.

COMPANIONS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL:

Another Masonic year, with its cares and labors, its joys and griefs has passed away into the silent tomb of time, and we, through the mercy of the Holy One of Israel, are again permitted to meet in Annual Assembly, to consult upon such measures as may appear to be proper or necessary for our future guidance and prosperity, as well as to examine the labor performed, to see if it will prove square and true, and acceptable to the craft.

Let us, therefore, as it is our bounden duty, render to the Supreme Grand Master our devout and hearty thanks for the many blessings and comforts which He has been pleased to bestow upon us and that so many of us are spared to meet again in Assembly, and to implore His continued guidance and divine favor in the future.

It gives me great pleasure, Companions, to be able to report to you that tranquility and harmony prevail throughout our jurisdiction, and that during the past year I have not been called upon to us my official authority, either for correction or reproval, and that all betokens progress and success for this branch of the Masonic family, and although a less number of councils have been organized the past year than the previous one, yet there has been sufficient to denote a healthy increase of our numbers, and for this increase, with one exception, we are again indebted to the labors of our Rt. Puis. Grand Lecturer, J. H. Chase.

On the 2d of March, last, I visited Genesee Valley Council, No. 41, at Nunda, and instituted said Council and installed its officers.

March 7th I instituted Alanson Brown Council, No. 44, at Lima, and installed the officers thereof.

I am indebted to the courtesy of Ill. Companions J. D. Williams, J. B. Chaffee, J. H. Chase and H. B. Harvey, for instituting the several Councils which were Warranted at the last Assembly, and installing their officers, and who have reported to me as having performed the duty confided to them.

March 6th, I issued letters of Dispensation to Th. Ill. Thomas L. Higgins, Master ; Rt. Ill. William M. Lester, Dep. M.; Ill. Rowland M. Gardner, P. C. of W., and the requisite number of Companions, to form Fredonia Council , at Fredonia, Chautauqua County.

March 10th, I issued letters of Dispensation to Th. Ill. J. Farnsworth, Master; Rt. Ill. J. C. Chamberlain, Dep. M.; Ill. E. Fisher, P. C. of W., and the requisite number of Companions to form Afton Council, at Afton, Chenango County.

April 15th, I issued letters of Dispensation to Th. Ill. Abiel T. Loomis, Master; Rt. Ill. Morris C. Highriter, Dep. M.; Ill. Samuel B. Whitaker, P. C. of W., and the requisite number of Companions, to form Fulton Council, at Fulton, Oswego County.

April 25th, I issued letters of Dispensation to Th. Ill. Wm. H. Gray, Master; Rt. Ill. David H. Stanton, Dep. M.; Ill. Sylvester S. Willard, P. C. of W., and the requisite number of Companions to form Northern Constellation Council, at Malone, Franklin County.

April 26th, I issued letters of Dispensation to Th. Ill. Norman C. Baker, Master; Rt. Ill. Sidney B. Watkins, Dep. M.; Ill. Warner F. Bascom, P. C. of W., and the requisite number of Companions to form Washington Council, at Whitehall, Washington County.

June 12th, I issued letters of Dispensation to Th. Ill. Henry A. Balcam, Master; Rt. Ill. R. L. Hill, Deputy M.; Ill. T. S. De Wolf, P. C. of W., and the requisite number of Companions to form Corning Council at Corning, Steuben County.

August 20th, I issued letters of Dispensation to Th. Ill. John L. Kalbfut, Master; Rt. Ill. Lewis L. Adams, Dep. M.; Ill. Stott Mills, P. C. of W., and the requisite number of Companions to form Deerpark Council, at Port Jervis, Orange County.

December 5th, I issued letters of Dispensation to Th. Ill. John Ombony, Master, Rt. Ill. Robert J. Post, Dep. M.; Reverend and Ill. Jeremiah Searl, P. C. of W., and the requisite number of Companions to form Peekskill Councill, at Peekskill, Westchester County.

I have good assurance that the Ill. Companions in charge of these Councils are true, trusty, and well skilled, and trust that their applications for Warrants will meet with your cordial approval.

January 26, 1869, a Dispensation was issued by our late Grand Master, C. H. Platt, to H. H. Lyman and Companions, to form Wyoming Council, at Pike, Alleghany County, but for reasons unknown to me they have done but little work, and have not up to this time made their returns to the Grand Council.

I have corresponded with Th. Ill. Comp. Lyman, and I am led to expect that at this session they will make their returns and apply for a Warrant.

In March last, a correspondence was opened through Ill. Comp. A. G. Goodall with the Reverend Companion Goerge Raymond Portal, Grand Master of the Grand Mark Lodge of England, Companion Nathaniel George Phillips, J. M. P. Montague, and other Royal Arch Masons of eminent standing in the fraternity of London, England, in relation to the introduction of Cryptic Masonry and the organizing of Councils of Royal and Super-Excellent Masters in England, which resulted in their calling Rt. Puis. Companion J. H. Chase to London for that purpose. Companion Chase left New York on the 10th of July, taking his full authority for me to confer the degrees of Royal, Select, and Super-Excellent Master upon such Royal Arch Masons as should be qualified to receive them according to our regulations.

On his arrival in London, Comp. Chase was received by our English Companions with the most cordial and fraternal spirit, and at the earliest moment proceeded to confer the Council degrees upon a sufficient number of Companions to organize four Councils of Royal, Select, and Super-Excellent Masters, to whom Dispensations were issued a follows:

July 31st, to Reverend and Th. Ill. Geo. Raymond Portal, Master; Rt. Ill. Nathaniel Geo. Phillips, Dep. M.; Ill. J. M. P, Montague, P. C. of W., with a constitutional number of Companions to form Grand Masters Council, in the city of London, England.

August 21st, to Th. Ill. Robert Wentworth Little, Master; Rt. Ill. William B. Church, Dep. M.; Ill. William Stone, P. C. of W., with a constitutional number of Companions to form Constantine Council, in London.

August 21st, to Th. Ill. Frederick Binckes, Master; Rt. Ill. Richard Spencer, Dep. M.; Ill. C. A. Cottebrun, P. C. of W.; with a constitutional number of Companions to form Mark Council in London, and whose applications to you for Warrants I trust will meet with your cordial approval.

August 21st, to Th. Ill. Sigismund Rosenthall, Master; Rt. Ill. James Stevens, Dep. M.; Reverend and Ill. David Shaboe, P. C. of W., with a constitutional number of Companions, to form Macdonald, Council, in London.

We cannot but look upon the introduction of Cryptic Masonry in England by an American Grand Council as one of the most important events in the Masonic history of this country, and we may contemplate with a natural feeling of pride that the Grand Council of

New York has that distinguished hour, tending as it must, to not only draw still closer the fraternal bonds that now happily unite the fraternity of the United States with that of our mother country, Masonically as well as politically, and also as being a preliminary step toward assimilating the Masonic systems of the two great nations of the world.

In this matter great credit is due Companion A. G. Goodall, who has taken an active and zealous part in bringing to a happy and successful conclusion his cherished wishes.

Comp. Chase was also ably assisted in his labors in conferring the degrees and organizing the Councils by Companions A. G. Goodall and D. Sickels, of New York, Chas. H. Thompson of Corning, and J. J. Martin of Albany. These four Councils have already taken the initiatory steps to the forming of a Grand Council for England and its dependencies, excepting Canada.

During the past year another bright star has arisen in the Masonic firmament; a new jurisdiction has been created, adding another banner to our forces.

Our Companions of the Province of Ontario assembled in convention at Toronto, on the 8th of August last, and organized the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario, and which under the Grand Mastership of that accomplished gentleman and Mason, T. Douglas Harrington, will soon become a large and prosperous jurisdiction. I bespeak for the Grand Council of Ontario a cordial recognition by you.

A statute was enacted by the Legislature of our State in 1866, incorporating such Lodges and Chapters of Masons as might choose to avail themselves of its provisions. I learn that Bloss Council, No. 14, of Troy, are about building a hall in that city for their use, and desire that the act may be so amended as to include Councils of Royal and Select Masters, to enable them as a Council to hold real estate. I think it would be well for this Grand Council to authorize an application to be made at this session of the Legislature for such amendment.

At the last Assembly, I was appointed as a delegate to attend the convention of Royal and Select Masters that was expected to be held in Baltimore last September, and I regret to say that for want of concert of action and other good reasons, the convention was not a success. Those of you who attended at Baltimore on that occasion well know the difficulties of getting a business meeting at that time.

The question of making the Council degrees a prerequisite for the Orders of Knighthood, was brought before the Grand Encamp-

ment, and was by that body left to the action of the Grand Commanderies.

Many of the Grand Councils have already taken measures to bring this subject before the Grand Commanderies of their States, and I would suggest that this Grand Council take some action for that purpose. When our great body of Knights and Companions shall have become more enlightened in our sublime mysteries, and shall have studied more thoroughly the beautiful ritual and the impressive teachings of these degrees, the more will they be convinced of the important position they occupy in Masonry, and will realize more fully the importance of making them a prerequisite for the Orders of Knighthood.

Another call has been made for a meeting of Representatives of Grand Councils, from which I am led to expect good results. M. Puis. J. H. Drummond, G. M. of Maine, under the authority and direction of that Grand Council, has issued a call for Representatives to meet in New York, on the second Wednesday of June next. In his circular, Companion Drummond says:

"Massachusetts and Maine will be there prepared to exemplify their ritual, even if they have only themselves to witness it," and those who know the Grand Master of Maine will understand that he means business.

There are many differences in the rituals and titles of officers in different Grand Councils, which such a convention could do much toward bringing about a uniformity, and which all will agree is very desirable, if not necessary, for the benefit of the Cryptic Rite. As the powers of such convention would be only advisory, I would recommend this Grand Council to appoint one or more Representatives to meet with the G. M. of Maine at New York in June next.

I would again call the attention of the Companions to a subject that was laid before them at our last Assembly, and the partial remedy then applied does not, I think, meet the necessities of the case.

I refer to the time occupied by us at our annual meetings.

My own experience and the opinions of many well informed Companions is, that in order to properly transact the business of this body, we should have more time than one, or possibly two evenings after the close of another body that meets during the same day; this is the only Grand Council but what occupies one or more days for that purpose. We certainly have the numerical strength and financial ability to hold our Assembly independent of any other body. It has been suggested that if we pursued the course adopted by the Grand Commandery of this State, of itinerating, it would not only be practicable, but beneficial, as it has been to that Order. I think the

subject of sufficient importance to demand the careful consideration of the Companions.

It has also been suggested that the G. C. again return to the City of New York and hold the Assembly in the summer season.

There now remains, Companions, but one other duty for me to perform, to surender to you the authority you were pleased to place in my hands, and in so doing permit me to return you my sincere thanks for the honor bestowed and the confidence placed in me, and trusting that we may be permitted for many years to meet in Annual Assembly, and in that same spirit of fraternal feeling that has heretofore characterized our meetings.

On motion of R. P. Comp. J. B. Chaffee, the Address was referred to a committee of three, to apportion the subjects therein treated of to appropriate committees.

The Grand Master appointed as the Committee:—J. B. Chaffee, H. W. Karn, W. P. Durrant.

The Grand Recorder and the Grand Treasurer then presented their Annual Reports, and, on motion, they were received and referred to the Finance Committee.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Recorder begs leave to present the following annual report of the receipts of the Grand Council:

1871.	Feb.	7.	Received at the Annual Assembly	$1,366.27
	Mar.	20.	Dispensation to form Fredonia Council	20.00
			Dispensation to form Afton Council	20.00
	Apr.	15.	Dispensation to form Fulton Council	20.00
	Apr.	25.	Dispensation to form Northern Consellation Council	20.00
	Apr.	26.	Dispensation to form Washington Council	20.00
	June	12.	Dispensation to form Corning Council	20.00
	Nov.	11.	Dispensation to form Deer Park Council	20.00
	Dec.	6.	Dispensation to form Peekskill Council	20.00
			For Seals on Diplomas	6.50
			Making total receipts	$1,532.77

All of which has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, and his receipt taken therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

J. SHOVE,

Albany, Feb. 1st, 1872. Grand Recorder.

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Treasurer submits the following Annual Report:

RECEIPTS.

Balance from last year	$615.18
Received from the Grand Recorder during the current year	1,532.77
Received for interest	27.60
	$2,175.55

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid Warrants from No. 214 to No. 269 inclusive	$1,521.94
Balance on hand	$653.61

Respectfully,

New York, Feb. 1, 1872. D. B. HOWELL, Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Master then announced the appointment of the following committees:

Credentials and Returns:—G. Fred. Wiltsie, Josiah Shove, J. B. Sackett.

Warrants and Dispensations:—F. D. Ramsdell, C. H. Van Brackle, H. J. Boyle.

Constitution and By-Laws:—J. B. Chaffee, F. W. Bolles, W. S. Paterson.

Grievances and Appeals:—John Hoole, C. G. Hudson, J. H. Hoskins.

Finance:—J. D. Serviss, Howard Cockburn, John L. Bentley.

The Committee on the Address of the Grand Master presented the following report, and, on motion, it was received and accepted, and its recommendations were adopted, with the exception of the last one:

The committe to whom was referred the Grand Master's address would respectfully submit the following report:

That so much of the address as relates to the formation of new Councils be referred to the Committee on Warrants.

That so much as refers to the correspondence with our English Companions, and the subsequent visit of Companion Chase and others, together with the formation of new Councils in London by Letters of Dispensation, be also referred to the Committee on Warrants.

That so much of the address as refers to the statute of incorporation of the State of New York be referred to a special committee.

That so much as refers to the time and place of meeting of this Grand Council be referred to a special committee.

J. B. Chaffee,
H. W. Karn,
W. P. Durrant.

The Grand Lecturer presented the following report, which was, on motion, received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Most Puissant James McCredie, Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of State of New York:

M. P. Sir and Comp.:—In pursuance to the instructions received from you about the 1st of July last, I proceeded to England with the proper authority and necessary documents to promulgate the Cryptic Rite.

On arriving in London, I reported to Companions Rev. George Raymond Portal, Capt. Nathaniel George Phillips, and the other petitioners, by whom I was most cordially welcomed and fraternally greeted.

I was accompanied by Comps. Charles H. Thomson of Corning, N. Y., and John J. Martin, of Albany, both of whom kindly volunteered to go with me.

On the 27th of July, Comp. Albert G. Goodall, who had forwarded to you the petitions and made the preliminary arrangements for introducing the degrees, arrived from the Continent, accompanied by Comp. Daniel Sickels, when the arrangements for conferring the degrees and organizing Councils were soon perfected.

The first meeting was held Monday evening, July 31st, at Freemason's Tavern, when the degrees of Royal, Select, and Super-Excellent Masters were conferred on the following named Royal Arch Masons:—

Rev. George Raymond Portal, Capt. Nathaniel George Phillips, J. M. P. Montague, Frederick Davison, William Roebuck, W. Hyde Pullen, Thomas Meggy, Magnus Ohren, Sigismund Rosenthal, Frederick Williams, Robert Hamilton, M. D.

When the ceremonies were completed the Companions proceeded to organize Grand Masters Council. Rev. and Comp. George Raymond Portal was selected as T. I. M.; Capt. and Comp. Nathaniel George Phillips as R. I. D. M.; and Comp. J. M. P. Montague, as I. P. C. of the W. Petitions were received and necessary business transacted.

The Council was then closed until Friday evening, August 4th, when it met at the same place and Companions Frederick Binckes, Rev. W. B. Church, C. A. Cottebrun, Rev. David Shaboe, Richard Spencer, James Stevens, and Joseph Starkey, were received, greeted, and acknowledged R. S. and S. E. Masters.

The next meeting was held at the same place, Tuesday evening, August 8th, and the degrees were worked on Companions Edward Baxter, Eugene Cronin, T. A. Hoare, George Lambert and William Stone.

The next assembly convened on the 21st of August, Monday evening, and Companions Charles Hammerton, Edward Kimber, Robt. Wentworth Little, Henry Massey, and John Read received the degrees.

Three additional Councils were then formed:—Constantine Council, with Comps. Robert Wentworth Little as T. I. M.; Rev. W. B. Church as R. I. D. M., and Frederick Binckes as I. P. C. of the Work. Macdonald Council, with Comp. Sigismund Rosenthal as T. I. M.; James Stevens as R. I. D. M., and Rev. David Shaboe as I. P. C. of the Work, and Mark Council, with Comps. Frederick Binckes as T. I. M.; Richard Spencer as R. I. D. M., and C. A. Cottobrun, I. P. C. of the Work.

These Councils were supplied with the proper Dispensations and declared duly organized.

The four Councils then took the preliminary steps toward forming the Grand Council of England and its dependencies, excepting Canada, in order to occupy the territory and prevent the organization of other Councils without the proper authority.

Thus has Cryptic Masonry been regularly established in England, and from the character of the parties engaged in the enterprise, and the position occupied by them in the fraternity, no doubt can be entertained but that it will prove eminently successful and the Grand Council of England become a bright and shining lumin-

ary of the first magnitude in the already brilliant constellation of the Cryptic Rite.

It is peculiarly gratifying, and should be regarded with feelings of just pride, that having received Masonry from England over a century ago, we have been permitted the honor of establishing the Crypitc branch there, and this honor has been awarded to the Grand Council of the State of New York.

During my say in London my companions and myself were the recipients of many kind courtesies and of unbounded hospitality. Nothing that could possibly add to our pleasure was left undone, and my most sincere and heartfelt thanks are due and are hereby tendered to those noble-hearted brethren who so cordially received and magnificently entertained us.

Among the numerous brethren to whom I am specially indebted for valued assistance, fraternal courtesies and unbounded hospitality, during my stay in London are R. W. Bro. the Rev. Geo. R. Portal, Grand Master of the Grand Mark Lodge of England; Capt. Nathaniel George Phillips, 33° Lieut. Gr. Com. of the Supreme Council of England; J. P. M. Montague, 33°, Gr. Sec. of the same and Fred. Binckes, Gr. Sec. of the Grand Mark Lodge. I feel that I should be doing gross injustice did I fail to acknowledge that the credit of having brought about the forming of these Councils belongs to Ill. Bro. Albert G. Goodall, 33°, the Foreign Representative of the Supreme Council of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the A. and A. S. Rite. It was through him that the correspondence was opened, and by his energy and able advice the work consummated.

My personal thanks are due to him for the kind assistance he rendered in the formation of the Councils and in conferring the degrees.

Thanks are also due to Comps. Sickels, Thomson and Martin, for the generous support and aid received from them. I have the honor to be your faithful co-worker in the S. V.

J. H. CHASE, Grand Lecturer.

Most Puissant James McCredie, Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

I have the honor to report, that during the past year I have organized Councils as follows:

March 16th, Afton, Chenango County; April 15th, Fulton, Oswego County; April 25th, Malone, Franklin County; April 26th, Washington, Whitehall, Washington County; June 12th, Corning, Steuben County; December 5th, Peekskill, Westchester County.

On the 3rd day of March last, I constituted Wadsworth Council, No. 47, at Amsterdam, and installed the officers.

I have also visited Watertown Council and instructed the officers in the work.

Much interest is manifested at the present time in Cryptic Masonry, and it only needs energy and fidelity on the part of our Subordinate and Grand Officers to place the Rite where it justly belongs, and I believe the day is not far distant, when these beautiful and impressive degrees will be made prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood.

If the Companions will only strive to emulate and imitate the zeal manifested by yourself during your administration, then our success is certain.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. CHASE, Grand Lecturer.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented their report, and, on motion, it was received, and the committee was discharged.

To the M. P Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Credentials and Returns would respectfully report that the following Councils have made returns, and paid dues to the Grand Council, and that their Representatives, as designated below, are entitled to seats in this Grand Body:

1. Columbian.....W. S. Paterson, M.
2. Union.....John Hoole, Proxy.
4. Brooklyn.....Henry W. Karn, M.

7. Adelphic.....J. F. Ferguson, Dep. M.
13. Central City.....———
14. Bloss.....Edward B. Cox, M.
15. Bruce.....Jason Collier, Dep. M.
16. Southern Tier { .....F. D. Ramsdell, M.
Maurice Levy, P. C. of W.
17. Buffalo { .....James McCredie, M.
.....John Briggs, Dep. M.
18. King Hiram.....James H. Hoskins, M.
19. Doric.....John Alexander, Proxy.
20. Keystone.....John B. Sackett, Dep. M.
21. Hudson River.....Howard Cockburn, M.
22. DeWitt Clinton { .....Henry J. Boyle, M.
..John J. Martin, Dep. M.
J. W. Morange, P. C. of W.
23. Ontario.....William P. Durrant, M.
24. Binghampton { Orlando W. Earle, Dep. M.
..J. B. Chaffee, P. C. of W.
25. Dunkirk .....———
26. Palmyra.....Mark C. Finley, M.
28. Utica.....Theo. W. Bolles, M.
29. Mohawk. { .....L. D. Sanborn, Dep. M.
.....Benj. Corency, P. C. of W.
30. Owego { John B. Stanbrough, Proxy for M.
.....C. M. Haywood, Dep. M.
31. King Solomon.....George W. Leonard, M.
32. Chautauqua.....Abner Hazeltine, Jr., M.
33. Olean { .....Calvin A. Stowell, Dep. M.
..M. B. Forbes, Proxy P. C. of W.
34. Watertown.....Charles H. Van Brackle, M.
35. Hornellsville.....John I. Bentley, M.
36. Pentalpha.....Thomas Darling, Dep. M.
37. Cryptic.....C. H. Sturges, M.
38. Seneca { .....M. L. Edgett, M.
E. L. Robbins, Proxy for Dep. M.
39. Northern Light.....E. D. Ferguson, M.
40. Konhocton.....W. H. Sheppard, M.
41. Genesee Valley.....A. Oppenheimer, M.
42. Canajoharie .....———
43. Tyrian .....———
44. Alanson Brown.....Charles G. Hudson, M.
45. Otsego { .....Rufus Doubleday, M.
...Frederick A. Goff, P. C. of W.
46. Zabud.....S. R. Lawrence, M.
47. Wadsworth.....John D. Serviss, M.

And that the following Councils under Dispensation have made returns and paid dues:

U. D. Wyoming .....———
U. D. Fredonia.....William M. Lester, Dep. M.
U. D. Fulton.....Abiel T. Loomis, M.
U. D. Northern Constellation.....———
U. D. Washington { .....N. J. Barker, M.
...S. B. Watkins, Dep. M.
U. D. Corning { ..C. H. Thomson, Proxy for M.
..G. W. Fuller, Proxy Dep. M.
U. D. Deer Park.....L. L. Adams, Dep. M.
U. D. Peekskill.....John Ombony, M.
U. D. Afton .....———

G. Fred. Wiltsie,)
Josiah Shove, } Committee.
J. B. Sackett,)

The Committee on Unfinished Business reported that no subject had been brought before them requiring any action on their part, or on that of the Grand Council, and, on motion, the report was received and the committee discharged.

On motion of T. Ill. Comp. Jason Collier, Comp. Charles Craig was granted additional time to prepare his report on Foreign Correspondence, to be forwarded to the Grand Recorder when completed, and to be incorporated in the minutes.

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations presented the following report, and, on motion, it was received, the recommendations herein contained were adopted, and the committee was discharged.

Your Committee on Warrants would respectfully report that they have examined the returns of the following Councils under Dispensation and would recommend that Warrants be granted as follows:

To Companions H. H. Lyman, Master; George Bemus, Dep. M.; Collins W. Thomas, P. C. of W., and their associates, to be styled Wyoming Council, No. 48, to be holden at Pike, Wyoming County, N. Y.

To Companions Thomas L. Higgins, Master; William M. Lester, Dep. M.; Rowland W. Gardner, P. C. of W., and their associates, to be styled Fredonia Council, No. 49, to be holden at Fredonia, Chautauqua County, N. Y.

To Companions Abiel T. Loomis, Master; M. C. Highriter, Dep. M.; S. B. Whitaker, P. C. of Work, and their associates to be

styled Fulton Council, No. 50, to be holden at Fulton, Oswego County, N. Y.

To Companions William H. Gray, Master; David H. Stanton, Dep. M.; Sylvester S. Willard, P. C. of Work, and their associates, to be styled Northern Constellation Council, No. 51, to be holden at Malone, Franklin County, N. Y.

To Companions Norman J. Baker, Master; Sidney B. Watkins, Dep. M.; Warren F. Bascom, P. C. of Work, and their associates, to be styled Washington Council, No. 52, to be holden at Whitehall, Washington County, N. Y.

To Companions Henry A. Balcam, Master; R. L. Hill, Dep. M.; T. S. De Wolfe, P. C. of Work, and their associates to be styled Corning Council, No. 53, to be holden at Corning, County of Steuben, N. Y.

To Companions John L. Kalbfus, Master; L. L. Adams, Dep. M.; Stott Mills, P. C. of Work, and their associates, to be styled Deer Park Council, No. 54, to be holden at Port Jervis, Orange County, N. Y.

To Companions John Ombony, Master; Robert J. Post, Dep. M.; Jeremiah Searl, P. C. of Work, and their associates, to be styled Peekskill Council, No. 55, to be holden at Peekskill, Westchester County, N. Y.

Your Committee would also recommend that a Warrant be granted to Companions Jonathan Farnsworth, Master; A. C. Chamberlin, Dep. M.; Erastus Fisher, P. C. of Work, and their associates, to be styled Afton Council, No. 56, to be holden at Afton, Chenango County, N. Y., said Warrant to be retained by the Grand Recorder until the proper returns are made and fees paid.

In regard to the Councils that were organized in England by authority of the Grand Master of this Grand Council, your committee would recommend that Warrants be granted as follows:

To Companions Rev. and T. Ill. Geo. Raymond Portal, Master; R. Ill. Nathaniel George Phillips, Dep. M.; Ill. J. M. P. Montague, P. C. of Work, and their associates, to be styled Grand Master's Council, No. 57, to be holden in the city of London, England.

To Companions Robert Wentworth Little, Master; William B. Church, Dep. M.; William Stone, P. C. of Work, and their associates, to be styled Constantine Council, No. 58, to be holden at London, England.

To Companions Sigismund Rosenthal, Master; James Stevens, Dep. M.; Rev. David Shaboe, P. C. of Work, and their associates, to be styled Macdonald Council, No. 59, to be holden at London, England.

To Companions Frederick Binckes, Master; Richard Spencer, Dep. M.; C. A. Cottebrun, P. C. of Work, and their associates, to be styled Mark Council, No. 60, to be holden at London, England.

And your committee, in view of the fact that this Grand Council has had the honor of establishing Cryptic Masonry in England, thereby forming an interesting and valuable epoch in its history, would respectfully recommend that the fees for the Warrants of these last named Councils be remitted.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

F. D. Ramsdell,
C. H. Van Brackle,
Henry J. Boyle.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals presented the following report, and, on motion, it was received and accepted and the committee was discharged.

To the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Grievances and Appeals respectfully beg leave to report, that no grievances or appeals have been presented for their consideration.

John Hoole,
Charles G. Hudson,
James H. Hoskins.

The Finance Committee presented the following report, which was on motion, received, and its recommendations were adopted.

To the M. P. Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

Your Committee of Finance, to whom was referred the reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, would respectfully report, that they have carefully examined the same and the vouchers accompanying them, and find the same correct.

Your Committee recommend that the officers and representatives receive the same compensation as recommended by the Finance Committee of last year, and that the sum of one hundred dollars be paid to the Grand Recorder, and the sum of ten dollars to the Grand Sentinel for services.

Also that the sum of twenty-five dollars be paid to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for services and expenses, and the sum of fifty dollars to the Grand Lecturer.

Your Committee further recommend that the sum of four hundred and fifty dollars be paid to Comp. Jackson H. Chase, for his services for the last five years in extending the knowledge of Cryptic Masonry in this country and in Europe.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

John D. Serviss,
Howard Cockburn,
J. L. Bentley.

The Grand Council then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following named Companions were duly elected:

M. P. John D. Williams.....Grand Master.
R. P. G. Fred. Wiltsie.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. P. F. F. Driggs.....Grand Ill. Master.
R. P. Henry B. Harvey....Grand P. C. of the Work.
R. P. Josiah Shove.....Grand Recorder.
R. P. David B. Howell.....Grand Treasurer.

T. Ill. Comp. H. W. Karn offered the following amendment to the By-Laws, which after considerable discussion was, on motion, laid on the table.

To amend Article II, Section 2, of the Constitution, by striking out the word "ten," and inserting the word "five," so that article, as amended, shall read, "No Council under this jurisdiction shall confer the Degrees of Royal and Select Masters for a less sum than five dollars."

The Grand Council then took a recess until to-morrow, the 7th inst., immediately after the close of the afternoon session of the Grand Chapter.

Albany, Feb. 7th, 6 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Council resumed its session, Officers and Representatives as before.

The Grand Officers-elect, with the exception of the Dep. Master, were installed in Ample Form by M. P. James McCredie.

The Grand Master announced the following appointments:

R. P. T. W. Bolles.....Grand C. of the G.
R. P. J. B. Chaffee.....Grand Marshal.
R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster.....Grand Chaplain.
P. C. H. Van Brackle.....Grand Steward.
P. Amasa Fuller.....Grand Sentinel.
R. P. Jackson H. Chase.....Grand Lecturer.

All of whom were duly installed by M. P. James McCredie.

Batavia Council, No. 27, having failed to make returns and pay dues for two years, on motion, further time was granted to said Council.

The following Warrants of Appointments as Representatives of sister Grand Councils were presented and accepted:

R. P. G. Fred. Wiltsie as Representative of New Brunswick, in place of Comp. Robert Macoy.

R. P. John Sheville as.....Representative of New Jersey.
R. P. John Sheville as.....Representative of Connecticut.
R. P. John Sheville as.....Representative of Missouri.
R. P. John Seville as.....Representative of Tennessee.
R. P. Charles Craig as.....Representative of Vermont.

On motion, the proposed amendment to Article II, Section 2, of the Constitution was taken from the table, and after discussion, the same was unanimously adopted.

The following additional article was offered as an amendment to the Constitution, and, after discussion, the same was unanimously adopted.

No Representative of a Subordinate Council under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council shall receive pay or mileage in excess of the amount of the dues paid in by the Council which he represents.

On motion, the Grand Master was authorized to install the Deputy Grand Master-elect after the close of this Annual Assembly.

On motion, the thanks of the Grand Council were tendered to Comp. A. G. Goodall, for his services in introducing the Cryptic Degrees in England.

On motion, it was ordered that the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council be held in the City of Albany, on the Thursday succeeding the first Tuesday in February, 1873, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

On motion, the Recorder was authorized to have 350 copies of the Proceedings printed and to send them in the usual manner to the Subordinate Councils and to our sister Grand Councils.

The Grand Master appointed the following committees:

Foreign Correspondence:—Charles G. Hudson, W. S. Paterson, T. R. Lawrence.

Special Committee to procure the Incorporation of Subordinate Councils:—Jackson H. Chase, C. H. Thomson, James McCredie.

Grand Lecturer:—Jackson H. Chase.

No further business appearing, the minutes were read and approved, and the Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

J. SHOVE, Grand Recorder.

[NOTE.—June 1st. After waiting until this date, the Grand Recorder is compelled to put the Proceedings in press without the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which he does by direction of the Grand Master.]

RECEIPTS AT ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

1.	Columbian Council	$23.00
2.	Union	31.25
4.	Brooklyn	43.00
7.	Adelphic	125.00
13.	Central City	32.50
14.	Bloss	103.75
15.	Bruce	20.00
16.	Southern Tier	68.25
17.	Buffalo	55.33
18.	King Hiram	14.00
19.	Doric	82.25
20.	Keystone	48.75
21.	Hudson River	22.50
22.	De Witt Clinton	49.75
23.	Ontario	11.50
24.	Binghampton	24.50
25.	Dunkirk	46.50
26.	Palmyra	24.25
28.	Utica	46.00
29.	Mohawk	17.50
30.	Owego	18.75
31.	King Solomon	40.25
32.	Chautauqua	21.75
33.	Olean	28.50
34.	Watertown	16.50
35.	Hornellsville	19.25
36.	Pentalpha	8.50
37.	Cryptic	20.75
38.	Seneca	15.00
39.	Northern Light	9.75
40.	Konhocton	20.25
41.	Genesee Valley	13.25
42.	Canajoharie	6.00
44.	Alanson Brown	16.75
45.	Otsego	10.50
46.	Zabud	11.50
47.	Wadsworth	7.50
48.	Wyoming, Dues, $32.25; Balance on Warrant, $10	42.25

49.	Fredonia, Dues, $15.25; Balance on Warrant, $10	25.25
50.	Fulton, Dues, $12.75.; Balance on Warrant, $10	22.75
51.	Northern Constellation, Dues $12.75; Balance on Warrant, $10	22.75
52.	Washington, Dues, $13.50; Balance on Warrant, $10	23.50
53.	Corning, Dues $14.25; Balance on Warrant, $10	24.25
54.	Deer Park, Dues, $17.50; Balance on Warrant, $10	27.50
55.	Peekskill, Dues, $17.25; Balance on Warrant, $10	27.25
56.	Afton, Dues, $9.75; Balance on Warrant, $10.	19.75
		$1,409.58

Abstract of Annual Returns of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Council.	Town.	County.	Received and greeted during the year	Affiliated	Restored	Dimitted	Stricken from roll	Died	Present membership
1 Columbian	New York	New York	...	...	2	1	12	1	34
2 Union	New York	New York	3	...	...	...	...	1	60
4 Brooklyn	Brooklyn	Kings	2	...	...	1	...	2	82
7 Adelphic	New York	New York	30	2	...	4	33	...	198
8 Eureka	Greene	Chenango	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13 Central City	Syracuse	Onondaga	...	...	...	...	...	2	63
14 Bloss	Troy	Rensselaer	9	...	1	1	9	3	191
15 Bruce	Lockport	Niagara	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
16 Southern Tier	Elmira	Chemung	13	...	...	2	15	2	111
17 Buffalo	Buffalo	Erie	9	...	...	1	...	2	112
18 King Hiram	Auburn	Cayuga	2	...	...	2	5	...	20
19 Doric	Rochester	Monroe	7	...	...	...	9	1	151
20 Keystone	Buffalo	Erie	13	...	...	...	...	1	90
21 Hudson River	Kingston	Ulster	2	...	...	2	2	...	40
22 DeWitt Clinton	Albany	Albany	5	...	...	1	1	2	93

Council.	Town.	County.	Received and greeted during the year	Affiliated	Restored	Dimitted	Stricken from roll	Died	Present membership
23 Ontario	Geneva	Ontario	...	...	...	1	2	...	20
24 Binghamton	Binghamton	Broome	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
25 Dunkirk	Dunkirk	Chautauqua	8	...	...	4	1	...	84
26 Palmyra	Palmyra	Wayne	3	...	...	1	...	1	45
27 Batavia (no return)	Batavia	Genesee	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
28 Utica	Utica	Oneida	12	...	...	...	...	...	86
29 Mohawk	Cohoes	Albany	6	...	...	1	...	...	31
30 Owego	Owego	Tioga	1	...	...	...	...	...	37
31 King Solomon	Newburgh	Orange	9	...	...	...	...	...	76
32 Chautauqua	Jamestown	Chautauqua	9	...	...	...	...	1	38
33 Olean	Olean	Cattaraugus	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
34 Watertown	Watertown	Jefferson	4	...	...	...	...	...	31
35 Hornellsville	Hornellsville	Steuben	7	...	...	...	...	...	35
36 Pentalpha	Flushing	Queens	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
37 Cryptic	Saratoga Springs	Saratoga	3	...	...	...	...	...	40
38 Seneca	Watkins	Schuyler	2	...	...	...	...	...	29
39 Northern Light	Essex	Essex	1	...	...	...	...	...	19
40 Konhocton	Bath	Steuben	5	2	...	...	...	...	36

41	Genesee Valley	Nunda	Livingston	7	1	...	...	...	1	22
42	Canajoharie	Canajoharie	Montgomery	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
43	Tyrian	Plattsburgh	Clinton	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
44	Alanson Brown	Lima	Livingston	11	...	...	1	...	...	27
45	Otsego	Cooperstown	Otsego	4	...	...	...	...	...	19
46	Zabud	Schuylersville	Saratoga	8	...	...	...	...	...	19
47	Wadsworth	Amsterdam	Montgomery	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
48	Wyoming	Pike	Wyoming	23	...	...	...	...	...	23
49	Fredonia	Fredonia	Chautauqua	13	11	...	...	...	1	23
50	Fulton	Fulton	Oswego	15	3	...	...	...	...	18
51	N'th'n Constellation	Malone	Franklin	9	12	...	...	...	...	21
52	Washington	Whitehall	Washington	16	3	...	...	...	...	19
53	Corning	Corning	Steuben	19	...	...	...	...	...	19
54	Deer Park	Port Jervis	Orange	14	14	...	...	...	...	28
55	Peekskill	Peekskill	Westchester	7	21	...	...	...	...	28
56	Afton	Afton	Chenango	13	...	...	...	...	...	13
57	Grand Masters	London	England	9	...	...	...	...	...	9
58	Constantine	London	England	9	...	...	...	...	...	9
59	Macdonald	London	England	9	...	...	...	...	...	9
60	Mark	London	England	9	...	...	...	...	...	9
				359	69	3	24	89	21	2321

Officers of Subordinate Councils

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of New York

Number and Name.	Masters.	Deputy Masters.	P. C. of the W.	Recorder.
1 Columbian	Wm. S. Patterson	William Fowler	H. Seligman	William J. Surre
2 Union	John F. Baldwin	Andrew Phillips	John S. King	Henry C. Parke
4 Brooklyn	Henry W. Karn	Edgar S. Knapp	Enoch George	J. W. Osborn
7 Adelphic	J. H. Corrin	J. F. Ferguson	C. C. Mowton	Wm. B. Shove
8 Eureka	C. F. G. Cunningham	Alvah H. Smith	Frank V. Turk	Robert P. Barnard
13 Central City	Abel G. Cook	D'Estang Remington	Richard H. Parker	R. M. Beecher
14 Bloss	Edward B. Cox	Wm. R. Hyde	Alexander B. King	William Pettis
15 Bruce	Charles Craig	Jason Collier	Warner H. McCoy	John Hodge
16 Southern Tier	F. D. Ramsdell	F. E. Cleaveland	Maurice Levy	W. H. Browne
17 Buffalo	James McCredie	John Briggs	Hawley Klein	John C. Snyder
18 King Hiram	James H. Hoskins	L. Lombard	T. B. Barber	John C. White
19 Doric	Wm. Shelp	George Hamblett	Henry M. Plant	John Alexander
20 Keystone	S. M. Ratcliffe	John B. Sackett	Isaac O. Criscy	Christopher G. Fox
21 Hudson River	Howard Cockburn	John P. Curtis	Andrew S. Schutt	J. Bostwick
22 DeWitt Clinton	Henry J. Boyle	John J. Martin	J. W. Morange	Charles T. Platto
23 Ontario	Wm. P. Durrant	John T. Scoon	William E. Hayes	Wm. N. Smith
24 Binghamton	Clinton F. Paige	Orlando W. Earle	Joseph B. Chaffee	George L. Lawyer
25 Dunkirk	Byron Rathbun	A. H. Libby	Elijah Harris	
26 Palmyra	Mark C. Finley	T. S. Jackson	Josiah J. White	E. W. Cummings
27 Batavia	(No returns)			
28 Utica	Theo. W. Bolles	George E. Allen	Elizur Russell	Thomas H. Floyd
29 Mohawk	Jos. Chadwick	L. D. Sanborn	Benjamin Corency	George Waterman
30 Owego	George T. Benton	Joseph S. DeWitt	David M. Goodrich	

31	King Solomon	George W. Leonard	E. D. Blankenhorn	John H. Waters, Jr	S. W. Corwin
32	Chautauqua	Abner Hazeltine, Jr	Robert I. Baker	Darius R. Cole	
33	Olean	Frank L. Stowell	Calvin S. Stowell	Elisha M. Johnson	R. H. Renwick
34	Watertown	Chas. H. Van Brackle	C. William Clark	T. C. Chittenden	S. T. Woodworth
35	Hornellsville	John I. Bentley	Samuel P. Arnett	Louis S. Boardman	
36	Pentalpha	Jos. L. Frame, Jr	Thomas Darling	J. W. Quarterman	S. C. Seaman
37	Cryptic	C. H. Sturges	J. L. Perry, Jr	George H. Gillis	J. E. Walker
38	Seneca	M. L. Edgett	Wm. E. Woodward	John A. Wheeler	E. Ingalls
39	Northern Light	E. D. Ferguson	A. J. Tucker	Anthony J. B. Ross	C. E. Hoskins
40	Konhocton	W. H. Shepard	Charles Dudley	E. S. Smead	V. Brother
41	Genesee Valley	A. Oppenheimer	Geo. M. Osgoodby	B. S. Coffin	I. T. Benjamin
42	Canajoharie	John L. Ellithorp	George H. Watson	John L. Earle	
43	Tyrian	(No returns)			
44	Alonson Brown	Charles G. Hudson	B. M. Bronson	J. S. Gordon	Franklin Carter
45	Otsego	Rufus C. Doubleday	Jerome Fish	Frederick A. Goffe	H. L. Hinman
46	Zabud	S. R. Lawrence	Samuel Wells	Emory Doolittle	D. S. Potter
47	Wadsworth	John D. Serviss	Johnson I. Snell	James Denton	
48	Wyoming	H. H. Lyman	George Bemus	Collins W. Thomas	H. Blodgett
49	Fredonia	Thomas S. Higgins	Wm. M. Lester	R. W. Gardner	John C. Mullett
50	Fulton	Abiel T. Loomis	M. C. Highriter	S. B. Whitacker	Jesse Watson
51	N. Constellation	William H. Gray	Daniel H. Stanton	S. S. Willard	
52	Washington	Norman J. Baker	Sidney B. Watkins	Warren F. Bascom	Henry A. Smith
53	Corning	Henry A. Balcom	R. L. Hill	T. S. DeWolf	A. D. Dudley
54	Deer Park	John L. Kalbfus	L. L. Adams	Stott Mills	C. T. Branch
55	Peekskill	John Ombony	Robert J. Post	Jeremiah Searl	Elisas S. Osbon
56	Afton	J. Farnsworth	J. C. Chamberlin	E. Fisher	H. S. Chamberlin
57	Grand Masters	Rev. Geo. R. Portal	Nath'l G. Phillips	J. M. P. Montague	
58	Constatine	Robert W. Little	William R. Church	William Stone	
59	Macdonald	S. Rosenthall	James Stevens	Rev. David Shaboe	
60	Mark	Frederick Binckes	Richard Spencer	C. A. Cottebrun	

Address of the Grand Masters and Grand Recorders

Of the Grand Councils of the United States

State.	Date.	Grand Master.	Address.	Grand Recorder.	Address.
Alabama	Dec. 7, 1870	Robert D. Webb	Livingston	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery
Arkansas	Nov. 4, 1871	E. H. English	Little Rock	Luke E. Barber	Little Rock
California		Joseph Isaacs	Shasta	Lawrence C. Owen	San Francisco
Connecticut	May 8, 1871	Chas. W. Stearns	Middletown	J. K. Wheeler	Hartford
Florida		William Morrill	Pensacola	D. L. Oakley	Monticello
Georgia	April 30, 1872	Robert M. Smith	Athens	Chas. R. Armstrong	Macon
Illinois	Oct. 5, 1871	Wm. A. Levanway	Dixon	James H. Miles	Chicago
Indiana		William W. Austin	Richmond	John M. Bramwell	Indianapolis
Iowa	Oct. 17, 1871	Benjamin Crabb	Mt. Pleasant	W. B. Langridge	Muscatine
Kansas	Oct. 18, 1871	John L. Philbrick	Doniphan	John H. Brown	Leavenworth
Kentucky	Oct. 19, 1870	Philip Swigert	Frankfort	A. G. Hodges	Frankfort
Louisiana	Feb. 15, 1872	Hugh Breen	New Orleans	Gus. Sontag, Box 321	New Orleans
Maine	May 30, 1871	Gordon R. Garden	Portland	Ira Berry	Portland
Massachusetts	Dec. 14, 1870	Charles H. Norris	Salem	Solon Thornton	Boston
Michigan	Jan. 2, 1872	H. Shaw Noble	Monroe	G. B. Noble	Detroit
Minnesota	Jan. 11, 1871	A. E. Ames		B. F. Wright	St. Paul
Mississippi	Jan. 20, 1872	B. S. Trice	Verona, Lee Co.	J. L. Power	Jackson
Missouri	Oct. 6, 1871	W. A. Prall	St. Louis	G. Frank Gonley	St. Louis
New Brunswick (C)	Aug., 1870	Jos. C. Hatheway	St. Johns	D. R. Munro	St. Johns
New Hampshire	May 17, 1871	George H. True	Manchester	Abel Hutchins	Concord
New Jersey	Jan. 16, 1872	J. P. Doremus	Paterson	T. J. Corson	Trenton
New York	Feb. 6, 1872	John D. Williams	Elmira	Josiah. Shove, Box 3737	New York
North Carolina	June 7, 1871	Thomas B. Carr	Wilmington	M. M. Katz	Wilmington
Ohio	Sept. 26, 1871	Joseph R. Conrad	Atwater	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati
Pennsylvania		C. F. Knapp	Bloomsburg	Thomas W. Wright	Pittsburgh
Rhode Island		Charles R. Cutler	Warren	Edward B. Knight	Providence
South Carolina	Feb. 14, 1872	James Birnie	Greenville	Alex'r Lindestrom	Charleston
Tennessee	Nov. 6, 1871	James McCallum	Pulaski	John Frizzell	Nashville
Vermont	June 15, 1871	Edward S. Dana	Cornwall	W. S. Whitcomb	Burlington
Wisconsin		J. A. Horlick	Racine	William T. Palmer	Milwaukee

REPRESENTATIVES OF SISTER GRAND COUNCILS NEAR THIS GRAND COUNCIL.

Grand Council of New Brunswick.....R. P. G. Fred. Wiltsie.

Grand Council of New Jersey.....R. P. John Sheville.

Grand Council of Connecticut.....R. P. John Sheville.

Grand Council of Tennessee.....R. P. John Sheville.

Grand Council of Missouri.....R. P. John Sheville.

Grand Council of Vermont.....R. P. Charles Craig.

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR SISTER GRAND COUNCILS.

Grand Council of Maine.....Josiah H. Drummond, Portland

Grand Council of Louisiana.....Rev. Thos. D. Lawson, Bastrop.

Grand Council of Michigan.....Rev. Levi H. Corson, Jonesville

Grand Council of New Jersey.Marcus Higgenbotham, Jersey City.

Grand Council of Connecticut.....James L. Gould, Bridgeport.

Grand Council of New Brunswick.....D. R. Munro, St. Johns.

OFFICERS OF GRAND COUNCIL—1872.

M. P. John D. Williams, Elmira.....Grand Master.

R. P. G. Fred. Wiltsie, Newburgh.....Dep. Grand Master.

R. P. F. F. Driggs, Dunkirk.....Grand Ill. Master.

R. P. Henry B. Harvey, Troy.....Grand P. C. of the W.

R. P. Josiah Shove, Box 3737, New York....Grand Recorder.

R. P. David B. Howell, New York.....Grand Treasurer.

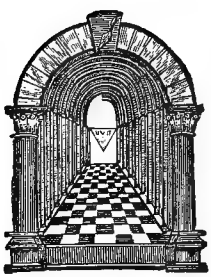
R. P. Theo. W. Bolles, Utica.....Grand C. of the G.

R. P. J. B. Chaffee, Binghampton.....Grand Marshal.

R. P. and Rev. J. G. Webster, Palmyra.....Grand Chaplain.

P. C. H. Van Brackle, Watertown.....Grand Steward.

P. Amasa Fuller, Albany.....Grand Sentinel.

R. P. Jackson H. Chase, Albany.....Grand Lecturer.

Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence:
Chas. G. Hudson, Lyons.